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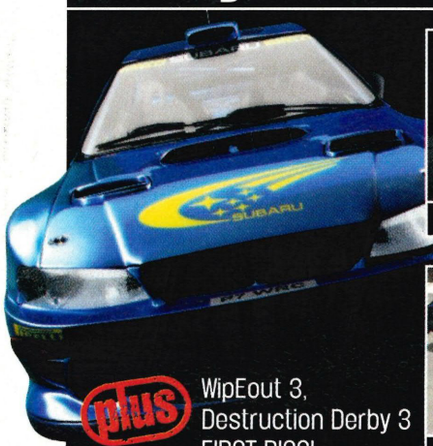
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Dino Crisis Aaaa

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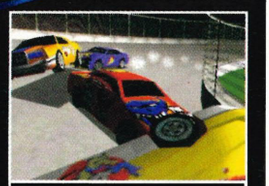


V-Rally 2: first play! p48





p42 WipEout 3: sci-fi racer!



p40 Destruction Derby 3

plus WipEout 3, Destruction Derby 3 FIRST PICS!

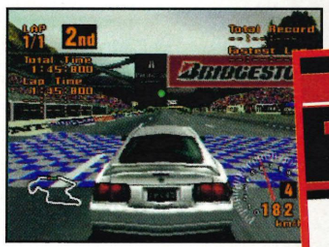
Instant Expert

Stuck? Puzzled? Don't be!

Warzone 2100 p54
Top strategies to win!



Gran Turismo p60
Get the fastest cars – fast



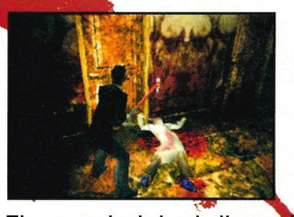
G-Police Part 2 p64
Missions 16-35 sorted

Brilliant Buys Guide

Get The Knowledge, including the best adventures, beat 'em ups and multiplayer games. p103



Bloody Gross p45





The most violent,disgusting games ever! Cool!

Blab p16

Gotta see! Hot games you must check out

Syphon Filter **Gran Turismo 2** Omega Boost **Point Blank 2** Dino Crisis **Speed Freaks** Metal Gear Integral **Demolition Racer** Evil Zone **and more!**



p16 Syphon Filter: Hardcore spy action



p20 Gran Turismo 2: Better in every way!



p22 Omega Boost: Deep space blasting



p23 Point Blank 2: Target-shooting action



p24 Dino Crisis: Hungry lizards go nuts



p28 Speed Freaks: High-velocity cuteness



p33 Metal Gear Integral: New modes!



p37 Evil Zone: Manga-inspired bashing

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The Works





■ Glorious violence! Pin-sharp graphics!



■ Turn to page 6 and start drooling

Rated ON TEST

Every new release this month!

p80 GTA London
Wideboy 60s add-on pack for Grand Theft Auto

p82 Rampage: World Tour
B-movie monsters go nuts... again

p82 Croc 2
The world's cutest lizard bounces back

p83 Bomberman Racing
High-explosive cutesy racing

p84 NBA Pro 99
Pick-up-and-play basketball effort

p85 Wing Over 2
Mega-detailed flight sim thing

p85 Legend of Kartia
Cute dwarves head off on an epic quest

p86 Pro 18 Golf
Tricky golf sim

p88 Anna K's Smash Court Tennis
Cutey-pie tennis with added leggy lovely

p89 Triple Play 2000
Sharp-looking baseball action

p90 Bomberman
The old classic is back in town

p90 X-Games Pro Boarder
Tricks-a-popping snowboarding effort

p92 Trap Runner
Duke it out with mines and bombs

p92 PUMA Street Soccer
Four-on-four street footy game

p93 Final Fantasy VII
3CD role-playing epic at a bargain price

p94 Gran Turismo
Tip-top racing game gets its price slashed

p96 Crash Bandicoot 2
Ultra-speedy platformer goes Platinum

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Don't miss out, turn to page 43 now!

Aprilia Blag p52

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LEGACY OF KAIN SOUL REAVER

p6 The best-looking 3D adventure ever? Believe it!



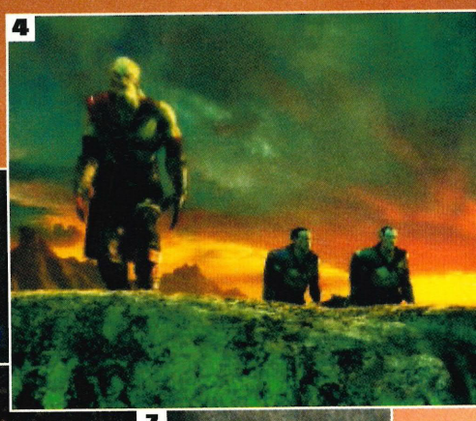
■**OUT** MAY ■**BY** EIDOS ■**COSTS** £39.99 ■**PLAYERS** 1 ■**COMPATABILITIES** JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD, DUAL SHOCK PAD
■**WE LOOK AT** MAGIC SWORDS, THE PLOT, THE SPIRIT WORLD, DIFFERENT KINDS OF VAMPIRE, COMBAT, MAGIC

BLOOD LUST!

Soul-drinking in plenty. Lakes of the Dead. Magic swords. Vampires. Deep, growly voices intoning stuff about 'doom' and 'fate'. Welcome to Goth central...

Impale a vampire on a stake. Hoist it up and watch it spit bloody froth at you as you suck out its soul. Classic entertainment. Add to that the pleasures of chasing screaming maidens with an eight-foot spear, and since this 3D adventure comes armed with some of the best graphics and gameplay yet seen on the 'Station, you'd have to be nuts to refuse...











1 Slug it out with scum from the Underworld 2 Kill weird spider vampires 3 Kain vs weedy vampire hunter. No contest 4 Raziel about to meet his doom 5 The Soul Reaver sword. Impressive, no? 6 A zombie vampire gets clawed 7 The hollow eyes of Raziel, the soul-sucking hero 8 The court of King Kain, the bad guy

»

The Works: Soul Reaver first play

What we like

Children of the night

It's a bit of a trend these days. Games that don't feel like games. Games that have a bit of a film feel to them. And this doesn't just have a bit. This is like the distilled essence of every gothic fantasy film you've ever seen. With added class. And as you can see, it has all the graphical oomph it needs to back it up...



■ Wield magical swords...



■ Big, sinister church windows. Goth central



■ Pursue maidens and eat their souls



■ Any number of weird misshapen things are lurking out there. And they're hungry for the contents of your veins

■ ...and of course huge, overblown villains. With fangs

What the...!

Soul Reaver's got loads of graphical icing, but let's talk cake. This plays kind of like Tomb Raider meets Conan. There's the same mix of combat, exploring and puzzle solving Croft finds in those tombs she raids. But unlike Tomb Raider, the combat's actually interesting. And there's much, much more extra stuff to discover.



■ Plus there's cool magic bits to get to grips with



■ The combat's fun. And very, very violent



■ But fret not, puzzle fans. Plenty o' levers

Plot

You're a vampire, a member of a court of bloodsuckers who have drained the human kingdom of Nosgoth for 1000 years. Gradually, all the vamps in the court evolve, becoming more powerful, but less human. This 'evolving' bit is led by the vampire king, Kain. You make the error of growing wings before he gives you the say-so. He casts you into the Lake of the Dead. You come back. And you're angry...



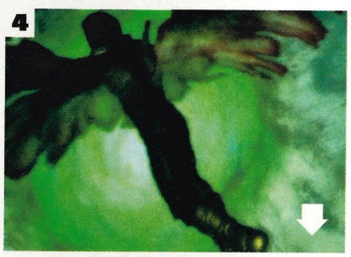
■ Kain. King of Nosgoth – an ancient vampire



■ You, Raziel. You're Kain's right-hand man . Until you make a boob



■ Kain's VERY angry. So he chucks you into the Lake of the Dead



■ Where you burn for a thousand years... until you meet the Elder



■ So he resurrects you, and sends you on your way to kill everything you see



■ Who happens to be an even older evil god. He doesn't much like Kain

Dialogue

Clocking up high scores on the cool front is the dialogue. This fella is one of the first bosses you encounter. He's one of your fellow vampire lieutenants: a sort of half-god type who's degenerated into a being who eats rotting flesh. And before you put him into a meat grinder, here's what he says...





'Tomb Raider meets Conan!'

They got vamp

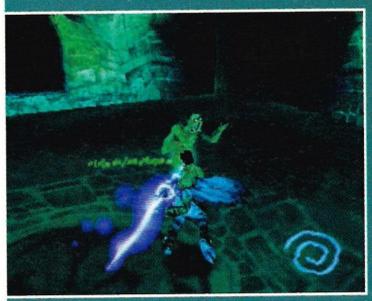
This game operates at near-fatal levels of gothhood. Vampires rate high on the gothometer whatever the weather, but here they've been tweaked into new shapes that'd make Marilyn Manson blush. Underground vampires, spider vampires, spectral vampires, zombie cannibal vampires. It's got 'em all...



■ Spider vampires: climbing walls is their signature stunt. Tricky customers



■ Zombie cannibal vamps. They sit around snacking on the flesh of the dead



■ Spectral vampires live in the spirit world eating souls an' stuff



■ Underwater vampires. Evil nasties that sit in coccoons waiting for some idiot to hit them...

Far beyond driven

What's cool about this is that the game never stops to load, it isn't divided into levels. So you get a real sense that a drama's unfolding, rather than it just being you plugging through chunks of game. And since you can wander all through the game world, discovering and exploring, it really starts to feel like a whole other world in there. Very nice.



■ Huge open areas are yours to explore



■ As well as the inevitable gothic buildings



■ 'The Dark Eden': HOW gothic?

It's the night for fighting

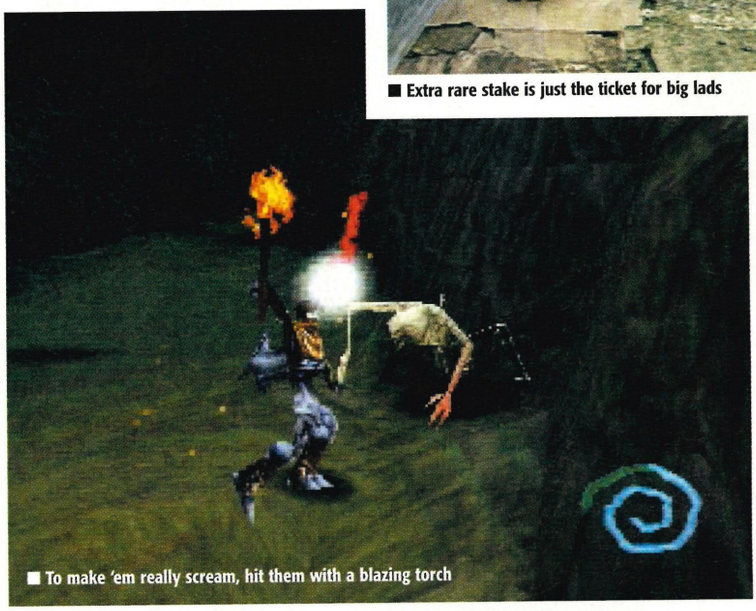
Fights in this are far, far from being the usual X-button-stabbing-fests that you expect from 3D adventure efforts. Most of the folks you fight are already dead, and this complicates things. You've got to stun vampires, and then use things like rays of sunlight, water or stakes in the chest to kill 'em. Which makes for tricky fights when there's, say, ten of them...



■ Grab weaker vampires and chuck them



■ Extra rare stake is just the ticket for big lads



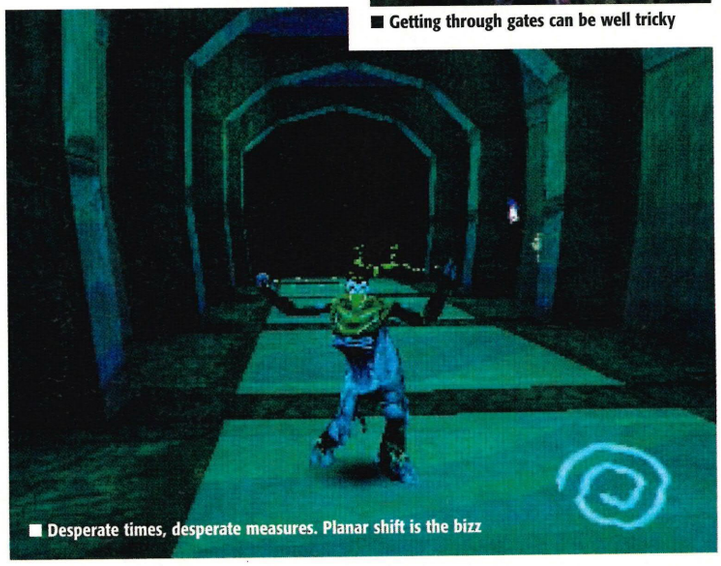
■ To make 'em really scream, hit them with a blazing torch

Ahhh... tricky

Here be puzzles. Sometimes, you'll have to slot things together jigsaw-style to get ahead. Other times you'll have to build things like pipes down which water can flow. But the coolest puzzles are the ones where you have to shift between different planes of existence to solve 'em. 'Planes of existence?' you ask. Just turn the page...



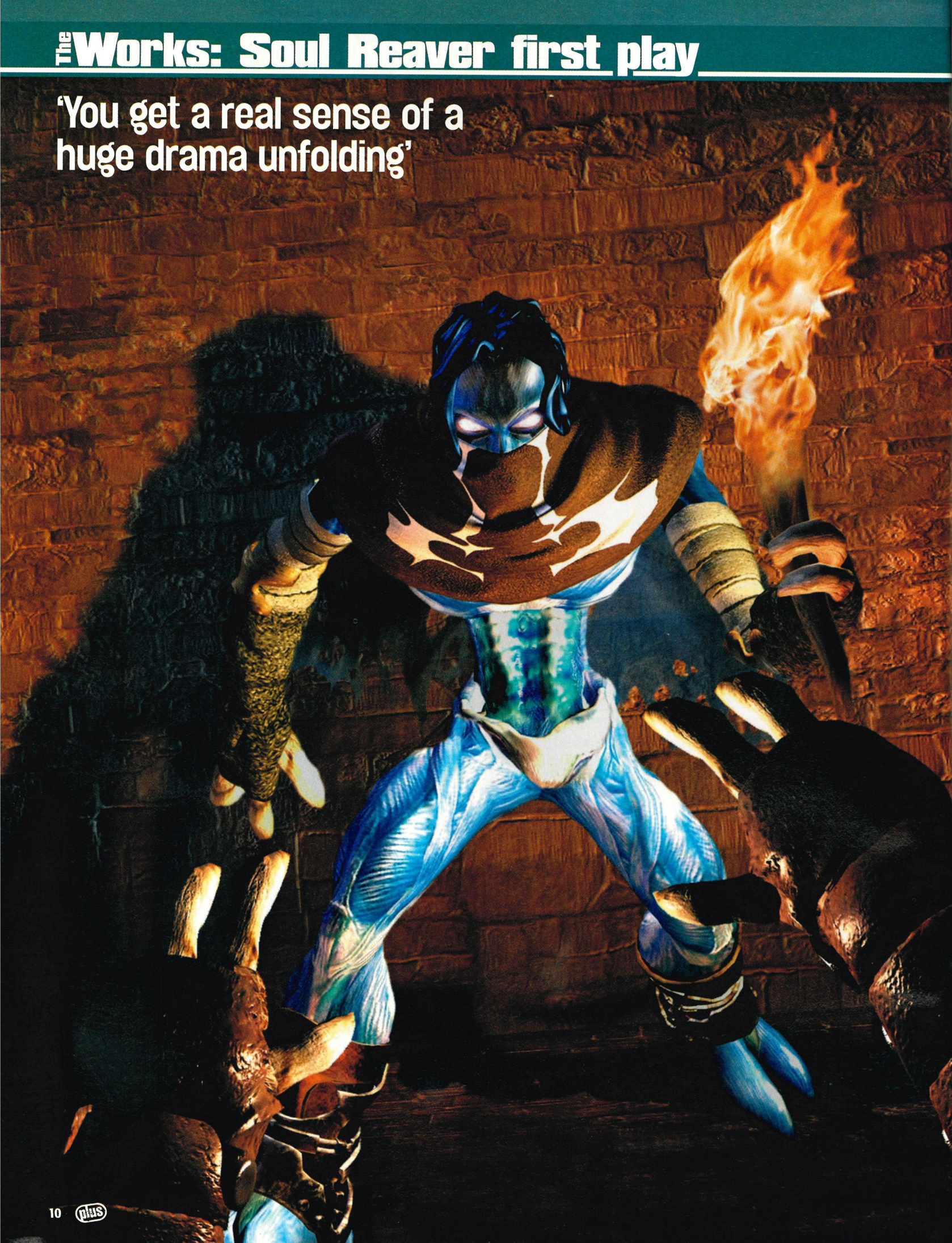
■ Getting through gates can be well tricky



■ Desperate times, desperate measures. Planar shift is the bizz

»

'You get a real sense of a huge drama unfolding'



'It's mind-bogglingly vast!'

Is this real?

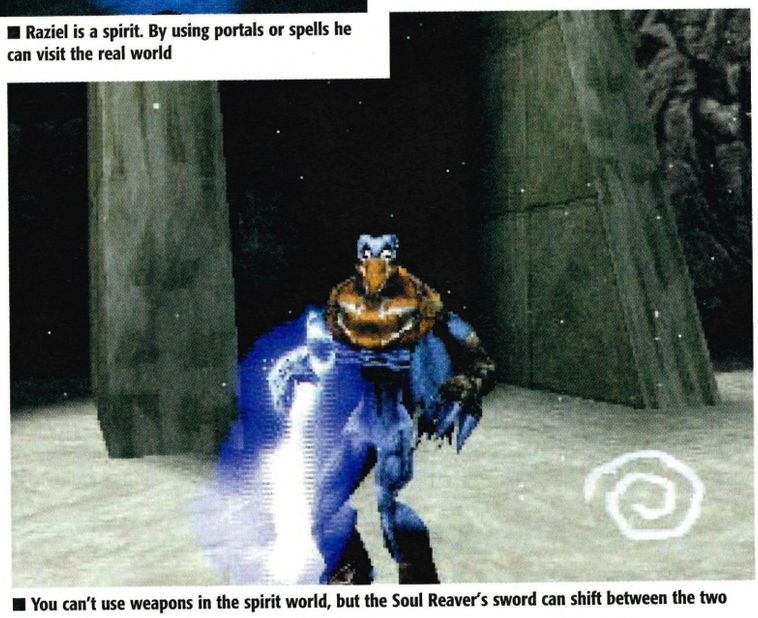
There are two different Planes of Existence in operation here. And before you start going 'You what? Enough with the hippy guff already!', we'll explain. Raziel can travel between the real world and the spirit version, which is filled with weird floating souls and stuff. Physical things operate in different ways in the two worlds. Puzzle central.



■ Raziel is a spirit. By using portals or spells he can visit the real world



■ In the real world, the enemies are different, and so's the scenery



■ You can't use weapons in the spirit world, but the Soul Reaver's sword can shift between the two

Ah, souls!

Being a resurrected über-vamp, you can't die. The way it works is that your energy declines all the time you're in the real world, and it goes much faster when you get hit. In the spirit world, it's much easier to get the souls you need to bump up your energy, but there's still plenty dangers awaiting you.

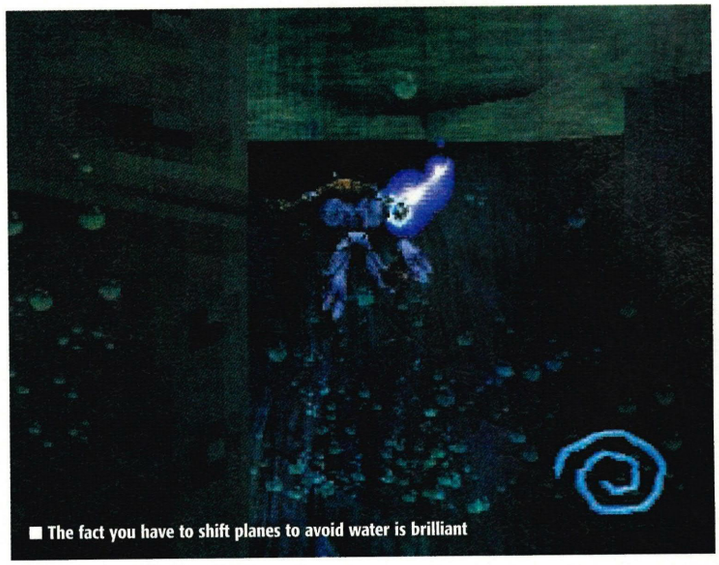
■ If you fall into water, you automatically go spiritside



■ These vamps suck your soul, sending you spiritside double-quick

Variety?

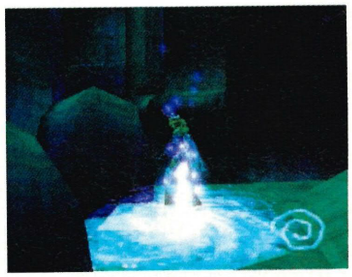
You've got plenty o' spells, a sword that can do tricks, two worlds to travel through, and almost every conceivable kind of puzzle to go up against. Plus you've got a mind-bogglingly vast game world with all sorts of scenery. There is enough here to melt even the hardest of hearts. It maybe doesn't have the sheer amount of 'stuff' Metal Gear has, but it kicks cheeks. Believe it.



■ The fact you have to shift planes to avoid water is brilliant



■ ... and that adds a new twist to the Tomb Raider-esque exploring



■ Portals will help you navigate your way through the vast game world

plus

We'd like to say...

It hurts to say it, but this wipes the floor with Lara Croft and her so-called tombs. It kicks her cute little buns. Hard. It's maybe not got the range of something like Metal Gear, but there's enough depth and variety in here to keep you coming back, even when you've got more important real-life stuff to do. You've been warned.

Magic swords

About halfway through, you get the Soul Reaver, a deadly magic weapon you can use in both the real world and the spirit world. By using blacksmith's forges, you can give it more abilities, like the ability to spew fire. It's this level of variety that gives Soul Reaver its edge. Tomb Raider's got nothing on this. Nothing.



■ Each of the elements can give the Soul Reaver new powers. Flames are good for this big fella



■ And you can even use it to fire projectiles at folks. Like, big projectiles

»

The Works: Soul Reaver first play

Check it!

'Puzzles?' we hear you cry, 'What manner of puzzles are these?' Well, try this one for size. You've got to get to the top of this enormous abyss. Thing is, you can climb walls in the real world, but not in the spirit world. So you start up by climbing in the real world, then switch, jump a bit, switch again and climb. Complex? Oh yes indeedy...



■ First off you have to climb up this sheer face



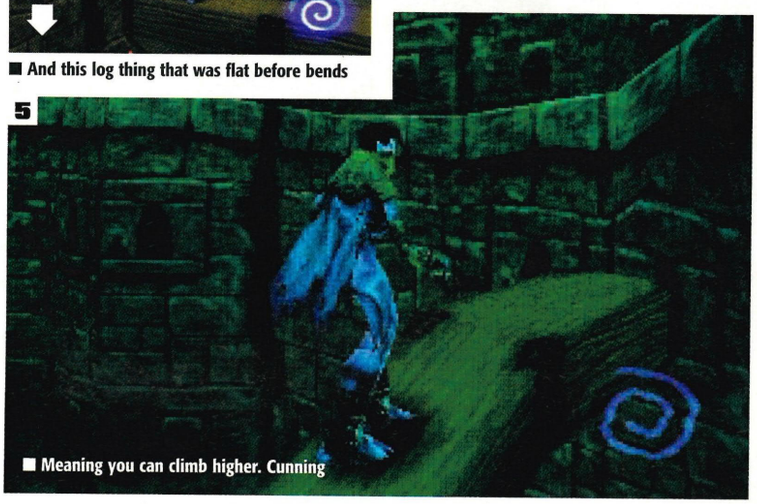
■ Then you get faced with this enormous pit



■ Time for a change to the spirit world



■ And this log thing that was flat before bends



■ Meaning you can climb higher. Cunning

So it goes, so it goes

How the game fits together is also mucho cool. You get hints and stuff from people about where to go, and then you'll wander through the world, using new abilities to get to new areas, finding things like enormous gothic cathedrals to explore. And it's not like you just go from one place on to the next. Using new abilities, you can revisit old places and get to new bits. Clever.



■ Talk to folks to get hints as to where to go



■ Then you begin to wander through Nosgoth



■ You can use portals to travel large distances

Quality

It's got the looks. And it's sure got style. But does it cut it on the gameplay front? Well, the answer is yes. Mostly. Sometimes, the platformy bits where you're walking on twigs over demon-filled abysses get a touch irritating. Sometimes you get lost. That's bad. But generally, yeah. It's non-stop. It's dripping with come-to-bed gameplay. It lives up to its looks. Phew.



■ The platform bits are made up for by the superb fights



■ Generally this oozes quality. Check out the boss-man here



■ The way these bull-things suck your energy is well cool

Problems - solved!

One of the areas where this really shines is that it gets over the problems of 3D combat very nicely. See, by holding R1 you lock to one opponent. By letting go, you can run around and choose a victim. No confusion. No punching the air. No locking on to folks you don't want to. Nice.



■ Or keep flipping between enemies



■ Lock to one evil bodger and knock 'em dead



■ Or just blast magical death at them

winner Big, bold and beautiful. This is probably the best-looking 3D adventure on the 'Station, and it plays like a dream. Buy it. You have no choice. **Rob**

PlayStation plus RATED 92%

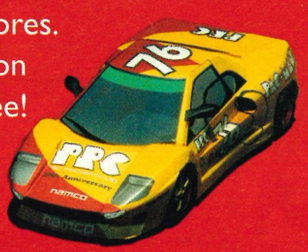

TAMARA WANTS TO HATE HERSELF FOR LOVING HIM. All Keith wants is a spanking gorgeous Pot Noodle
Pot Noodle
Snack
CHICKEN & MUSH
FLAVOUR
Pot Noodle
Snack
'POT' AND 'POT NOODLE' ARE REGISTERED TRADE MARKS OF KNORR NAEHRMITTEL AG

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Got something you're desperate to share with the world of PlayStation? Get writing... (If your question is just about games or tips, use our coupon on page 74, we'll pay the postage and print an answer in PlayStation plus.)

CAT TORTURE

I have a really good game. **Metal Gear, perhaps? Tomb Raider?** If you love cats, don't read this. For this game, you need a cat, a big stick, **We feel uneasy** some ham, string and a fairly big banister. The game is called cat fishing. You tie one end of the string to the stick and the other to the ham, dangle the ham over the banister and hold it just where the cat can't reach it. This may be cruel but it's fun to watch.

Sam Archbold

This young man's address is already in the hands of the RSPCA



■ Cat fishing at the Archbold home. Really

LONDON LIES

I am writing to complain about the release of Grand Theft Auto London. What the hell is going on with the release date of this game?

Ever since the game was announced there have been various dates of release. This is fine when the game has just been announced but it's simply not on when the game is so near to its supposed release. You've said it was to be released on various dates in April and May during the last couple of months. What's the story?

M. Watkins

PS Please print me a picture of a fit female.

Games slip off their schedules. Fact. And no matter how hard we try to get the most recent release date, there's only so much we can do. Blame the programmers, that's what we say.

But you should be pleased GTA London's slipped a bit, 'cos now you can read our review first and find out that it is, in fact, very poor indeed. Anyway, have a fit female to make yourself feel better...



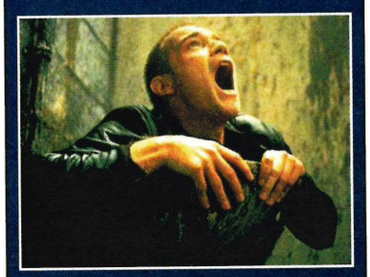
■ GTA: London = crap
Gail Porter = very nice

SHOOT UP SOME METAL GEAR

Choose stealth. Choose a mission. Choose Alaska. Choose a f*****g big gun. Choose chaff grenades, rations, mine detectors and cardboard boxes. Choose good allies and mankind-saving black ops. Choose a schizophrenic babe called Meryl. Choose a walking tank. Choose your friends. Choose Otacon with tomato ketchup. **You what?** Choose a one-man sub and matching flippers. Choose an anti-freeze suit in a range of fabrics. Choose diazepam and wondering who you are on a Sunday morning. Choose sitting in front of that Codec watching mind numbing, spirit crushing genome soldiers, stuffing FOX HOUND every chance you get. Choose gene therapy. Choose Deepthroat. Choose rotting away at the end of it all, p*****g away your last Socom bullets in a nuclear disposal facility, nothing more than an embarrassment to the selfish back-up team who put you there. Choose your destiny, Choose life. Choose Metal Gear Solid, the greatest PlayStation game ever made.

Jonathan Cartwright

You can't argue with that kind of logic...



■ Stationspotting the Cartwright way

WWF ATTITUDE

I think your mag is great, but I was just wondering: will you be reviewing WWF Attitude?

John

Worry not, John me old sahn. We review EVERY game. Sometimes it's hard, but you've just got to grit your teeth and keep on keeping on. Full review next month.

RESIDENT EVIL

A few months ago, you said something about the release of Resident Evil: The Movie. Since then I have heard nothing about it. Could you say something about the movie? Will there also be a Resident Evil 3 on the Playstation?

Daniel Kilburn

Yup. Things have been kind of silent on the Res Evil movie front. We'll bring you info as we hear it. But now for some good news: there IS a new Resident Evil coming out on PlayStation – Resident Evil: Nemesis. We'll have the first pics next month.



PLAYSTATION PROBLEMS

Inside the PlayStation where you place the CD are three ball-bearings and inbetween these are three plastic pieces. One of these has snapped off. Is this going to cause a problem which would need to be fixed, or am I just worrying over nothing?

Sally

You can usually subject a PlayStation to a really appalling amount of abuse before it dies. On the other hand, they sometimes just stop working for no reason at all. Just hit it and hope. If that fails call Sony on 0171 477 1600. Sorted.

ODDS & ENDS

Will Coco, that lovable monkey, be hideously renamed to 'Choco'?

Glen Scott

So you think that kids can't play games?

C. Reay

Not 'can't' so much as 'shouldn't be allowed to'

Please can you keep Elaine, **Our resident Final Fantasy oracle and exotic goth temptress** she's helpful.

Kwan Ting Chan

I have come to the conclusion that there is a conspiracy going on and Championship Manager's fans are being gagged.

Ash

And the police are paying children to watch your home. And they've also wired up all the taps in your house to a huge listening device. Have fun!

We make PlayStation plus

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Everything's based on our opinions. The info we use comes from companies, or is correct to our knowledge. News/previews are based on info true when going to press.

SORRY 'BOUT THAT
We would herewith like to apologise to anybody we've ever insulted when drunk. Soz.

emap active

Blab

- p18 Carmageddon
- p20 Gran Turismo 2
- p22 Omega Boost
- p23 Point Blank 2

This is where you'll hear about the best new games first. All the news, all the first screenshots of the stuff other mags don't get. Stick with us and we'll see you right.



'Know your 9mm from your M16? Then this is the one for you'

■ p24 Dino Crisis ■ p26 WWF Attitude ■ p28 Speed Freaks ■ p32 Eagle 1 Harrier Attack ■ p33 Metal Gear Integral ■ p34 Ape Escape ■ p35 Demolition Racer ■ p37 Evil Zone

■ **OUT** JULY ■ **BY** SONY ■ **PLAYERS** 1 ■ **COMPATIBILITIES** MEMORY CARD, JOYPAD, DUAL SHOCK PAD

Syphon Filter

This ain't no Soda Stream sim, this is a full-on blast with mad henchmen, multiple assassinations and a deadly virus!

Stealth games are the flavour of the month. We've had silent throat slitting in Tenchu, super spy thrills in Metal Gear Solid. And now there's Syphon Filter, an action-packed shooter with muchos gun slinging. You're a lone agent acting for the government, drafted in to... well, to shoot the crap out of anything that moves, really.

Deadly virus alert

The Syphon Filter itself is a deadly biological virus. If activated the world as we know it will cease to exist (hey, no school, no work! Sounds sweet to us!). As super spy Gabriel Logan you got to stop that from happening. By any means necessary.

Pressure cooker

Locked in a claustrophobic world crammed with bad guys, you're constantly up against the clock to fulfill your mission objectives before it's too late. You start in the city streets, running like mad, but taking time out to pick off snipers and machine-gun totting tough guys.

There are 18 levels to cane, with tough-ass bosses along the way. And to cater for all you James Bond fiends there's a shop full of well-cool gadgets to play around with. So if you know your silenced 9mm from your M16, and you've just got to have a hand-held Taser gun, this could be tailor made for you.

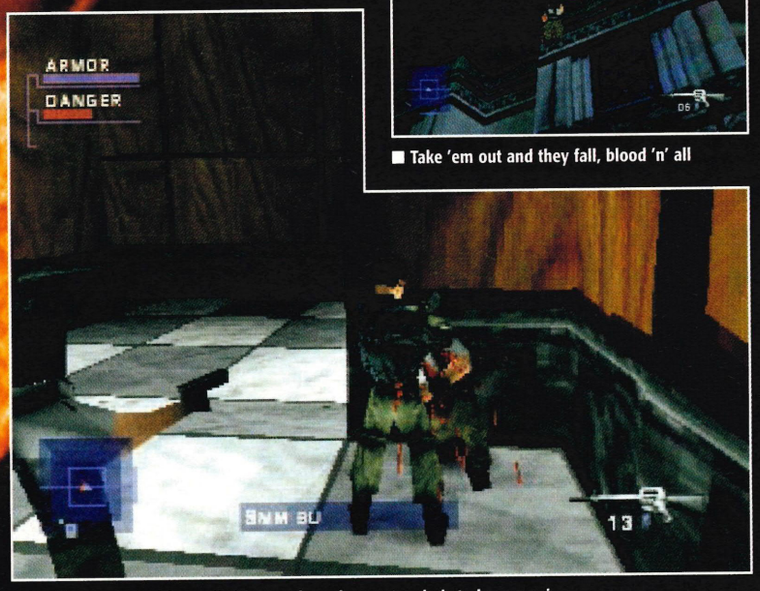
plus We like the look of this. It's got excitement to go, looks the business and plays fast. Roll on July.



■ It's chaos out there, but you can't bottle it


■ Side-stepping is the only way to survive


■ Take 'em out and they fall, blood 'n' all

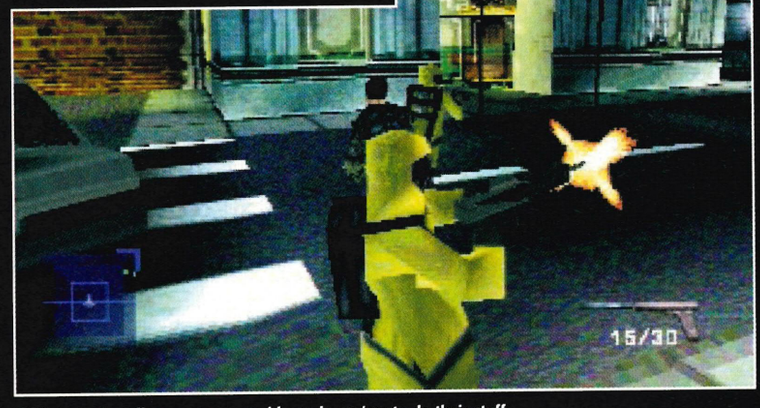


■ You'll get attacked from all sides, so the only way to win is to keep moving



■ Alleyways offer a moment's peace


■ Shoot out the windows, then crawl through



■ The guys in yellow are on your side, so leave 'em to do their stuff

»

OUT JULY **BY** SCi **PLAYERS** 1-2 **COMPATIBILITIES** JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD

Carmageddon

Controversial road rage game makes it to the 'Station with blood aplenty...

Put your morals on hold. The sickos responsible for the most controversial game in history, Carmageddon, are putting the finishing touches to the PlayStation version of the ultra-violent road rage game. Expect the usual media storm of controversy to follow.

Bleedin' hell

Here's the pitch: get behind the wheel of a classic Eagle MK1 motor and battle against 30 other megalomaniacal drivers to become the king of carnage. Race around tons of differently-themed levels, mowing down pedestrians unfortunate enough to stumble across your path. Bloody entrails shoot off in various directions as their limbs are severed, leaving them positively legless (arf!) and rendered quite armless (double arf!). That's about as complicated as it gets.

Road kill

New for the PlayStation version are a whole host of new features, including the ability to upgrade your souped-up chariot of death. New engines, extra armour and defences will be made available throughout the game, but you've gotta earn 'em first. New vehicles are also making an appearance in the 'Station version, including a pick-up truck, a turbo-charged mini and a cop car. Best of all is the smart split-screen two-player game, allowing you to indulge in head-to-head deathmatch battles with a mate. Sounds good to us.

Could be a case of excessive blood 'n' guts and controversy masking a crap game. We'll have the review soon enough...



■ That's what we like to see: plenty of over-the-top gore



■ Finish first to upgrade your car



■ The new levels look way cool



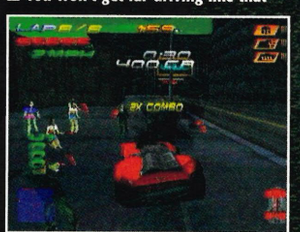
■ Expect a 15-rating for this



■ Collect power-ups like the 'electro-bastard ray' here



■ You won't get far driving like that



■ Run down pedestrians for big points

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■ **OUT** SEPTEMBER ■ **BY** SONY ■ **PLAYERS** 1-2 ■ **COMPATIBILITIES** JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD, DUAL SHOCK PAD, STEERING WHEEL, POCKETSTATION

Gran Turismo 2

The king of 'Station racing games is back for a second run...

We've just received the very latest screenshots of the eye-popping Gran Turismo 2 and it's looking better than we ever dared expect. There are no new details on the game yet, but here's what we already know: there are 400 different cars, many of 'em from European manufacturers like Peugeot, Mini and Renault.

What else?

There are twice as many circuits this time around, each featuring numerous different routes.

Off-road rallying has now been added to the GT, sports and production car categories featured in the original game. And, of course, the graphics are even more jaw-dropping than before.

PocketStation compatible

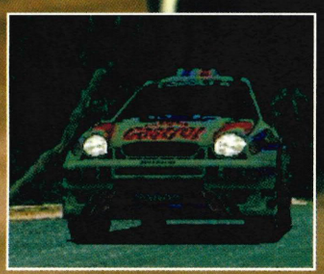
The car tuning option is more comprehensive, allowing you to tinker around with even more aspects of your motor.

Support for the new-fangled PocketStation gizmo is now guaranteed and – best of all – the programmer spods reckon it'll take you a full year to complete. We can't wait.

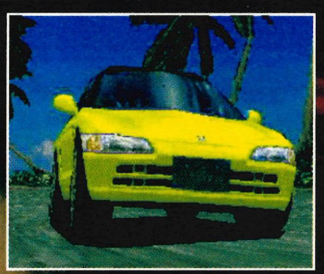
This is gonna be THE racing game to own this year. It looks the business, it's chocka with new features and it'll take you an age to complete. Awesome.



■ The Mitsubishi Lancer's well smart



■ The Toyota Corrola is great for rallying



■ There are tons of Euro cars this time



■ Sheesh, this game's got everything. It's even got an off-road rallying mode in there!



■ The replays look just as spectacular as they did in the original Gran Turismo



■ New courses look jaw-dropping



■ There's a diddy Mini Cooper in there



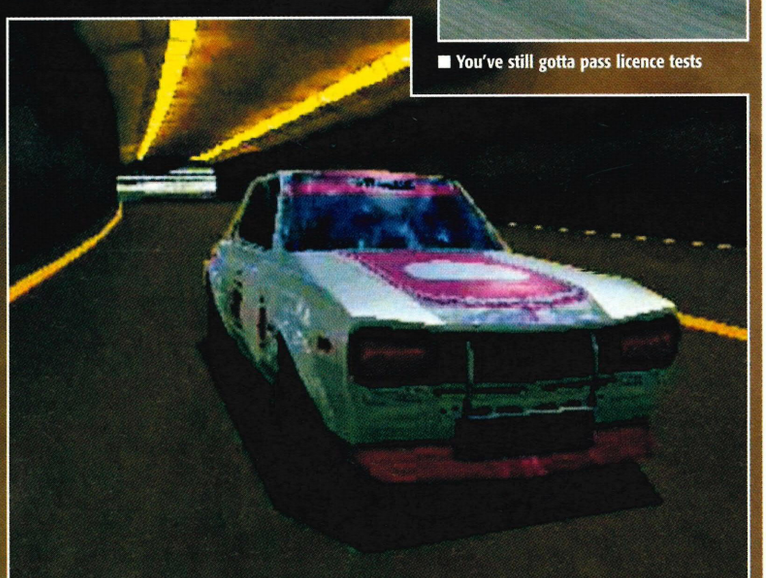
■ They reckon it'll take an entire year to finish this



■ C'mon. You know you want it...



■ You've still gotta pass licence tests



■ The sweet graphics from the first game have been tweaked and refined for the sequel

■ **OUT** SEPTEMBER ■ **BY** SONY ■ **PLAYERS** 1
■ **COMPATIBILITIES** JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD, DUAL SHOCK PAD

Kurushi Final

Methadone for all you Tetris junkies. Welcome back to puzzle Hell.

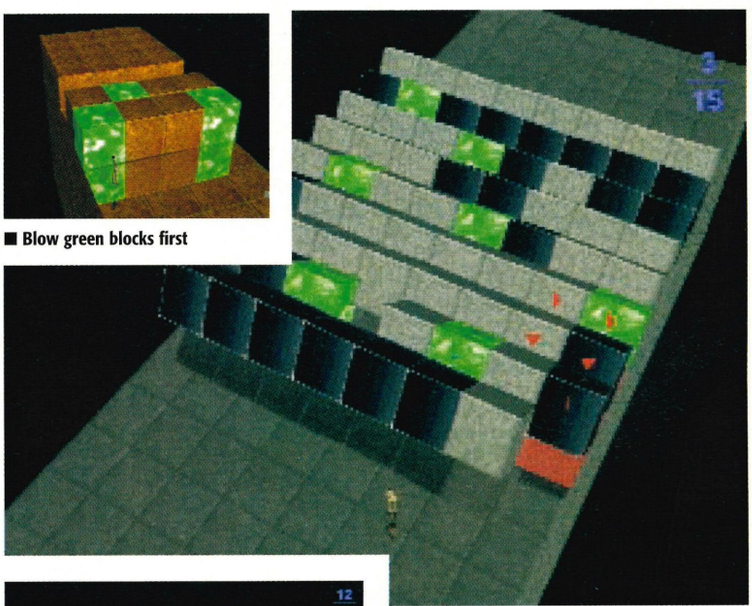
You stand on the second-top row of some blocks. The top row start rolling towards you. By dropping markers you can blow out blocks. Hit a green one, and you can blow out nine. Hit a black one, and the bit you're standing on starts to fall off into space. Blow all the blocks, you win. Fail, you die. Sounds puzzling? That's the idea...

Monkey puzzle

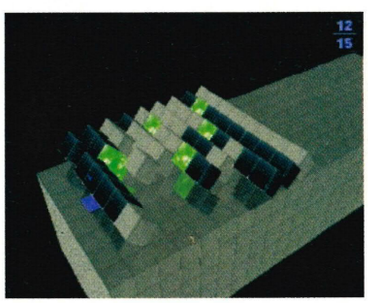
But be warned. This is actually the sequel to last year's effort, Kurushi. And the idea is these are the 'Master Levels'. That means even the easier puzzles are going to clock in at 'major headache' level, and the later ones are indescribably hard. Unless you're a signed up Mensa member thinking 'What the hell, I've got plenty surplus brain cells. Let's fry!', then go ahead. Otherwise we reckon you're best off staying well clear.

plus The first Kurushi was strangely relaxing to play. This isn't. It's like Tetris in a bad mood. This will hurt your head.

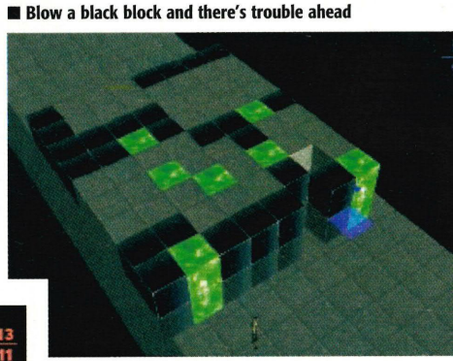
■ Blow green blocks first



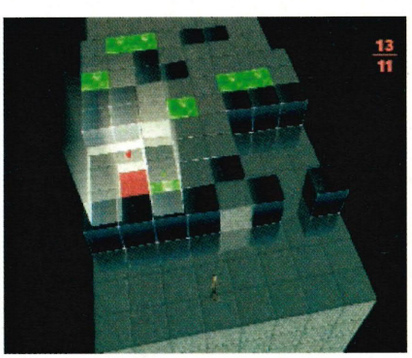
■ Blow a black block and there's trouble ahead



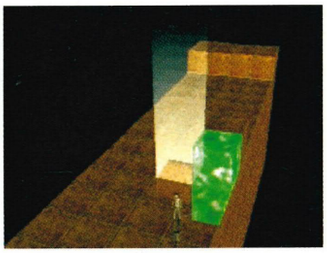
■ Use combinations of green blocks to win



■ Careful thought is needed here



■ Green block in action. Nine blocks go down



■ Victory! There. That wasn't so hard

■ **OUT** DECEMBER ■ **BY** SONY ■ **PLAYERS** 1 ■ **COMPATIBILITIES** JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD, DUAL SHOCK PAD

Omega Boost

The alien invasion has begun! And only you can destroy the menace...

The idea is this. Everything you see, you kill. You, the lone hero, get suited up in giant robot drag and fly into space to take on an endless sequence of hard-as-nails boss monsters. Cleverly skipping all those drab shoot 'em up bits where you blast 150 exactly-the-same space grunts to bits, Omega Boost has just gone for the burn with an endless sequence of huge, evil boss spaceships. Nice.

Kill for a thrill!

What's even cooler is that every boss is really different. You've got flying robots. You've got huge spacecraft that drop tons of high explosive on you. You've got huge eye things. You've got huge planet-type things. An every-one-a-winner assortment of dogfight-friendly space nasties. This is looking like a pretty high-adrenalin offering. One to watch...

***plus** Lookswise, this is head and shoulders above any 'Station shoot 'em up we've seen. And it's got 'the moves', too. Looking very, very cool. More news as we get it...*



■ Lighting effects are cool



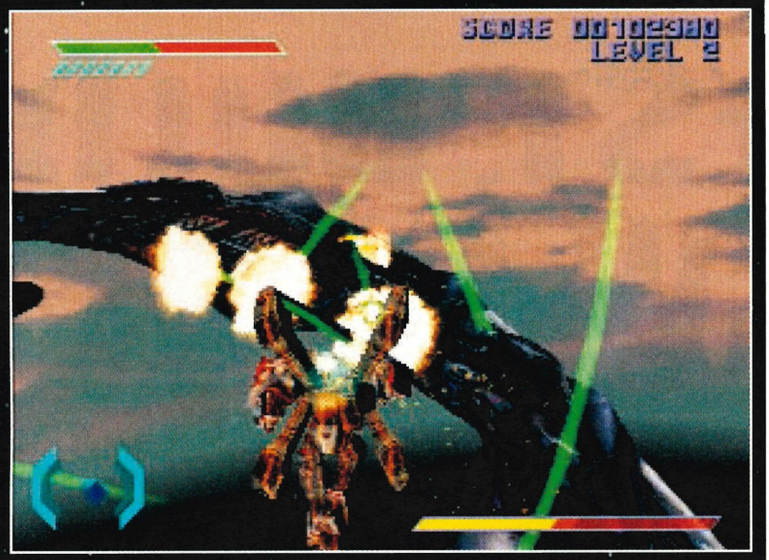
■ Giant spider thing. Very, very tough



■ The bosses have all sorts of special attack



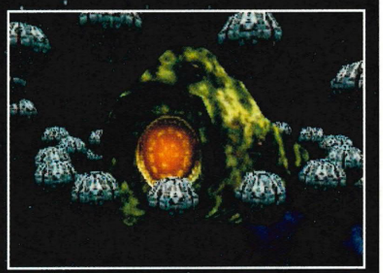
■ A giant spaceship gets it up the rear end. You have to stay well out of the reach of its guns



■ Ah, the air is alive with the sound of frying alien ass. Yum



■ When insects attack! Time to give 'em hell



■ Giant floating eye. With balls. A killer



■ The green bits are the trails of your missiles



■ Space onslaught. But your missiles should sort 'em out

■ **OUT** SEPTEMBER ■ **BY** SONY ■ **PLAYERS** 1-2
■ **COMPATIBILITIES** JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD, GUNCON

Point Blank 2

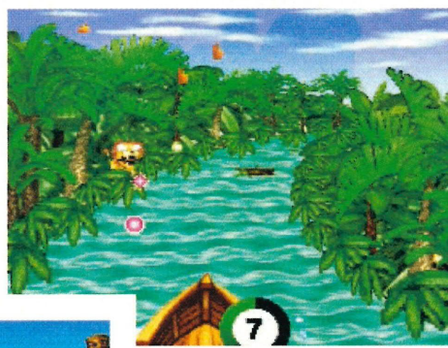
The cuddly toys are coming! Kill! Kill them all!

Rolling targets. Fluttering targets. Falling targets. Big targets. Small targets. Everything from big fluffy toys to tiny falling leaves. This is the gun game that boils it down to the basics. Can you shoot straight? And can you do it faster than the next guy?

Deadeye Dick

Point Blank is the only gun game we still play in the office. The body count's low, but in two-player it's an absolute blast. So we're over the moon to see it's spawned a sequel. And fans of the first'll be pleased to hear that it's more of the same: more bullseyes, more frantic cartoonish shoot 'em up action, more ridiculously hard one-shot challenges. And there's even more modes to do your shooting in. Oh yeah.

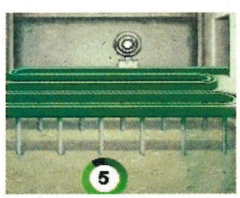
***plus** The first one was good, and this looks pretty meaty too. More news soon...*



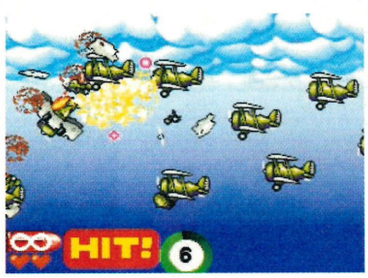
■ Kill all fluffy animals



■ Shoot all the aliens before they get the guy



■ One moving target. One shot



■ Kill as many comedy aircraft as you can



■ Only shoot the guys who appear with guns



■ Clockwork mice keep popping up out of these holes. You have to kill lots of 'em to get ahead

THE BIGGEST, BOLDE OF THE NEW GAME Y

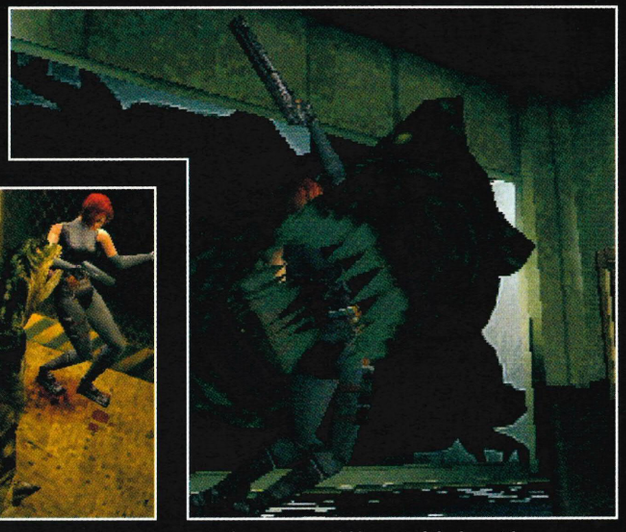
OUT SEPTEMBER **BY** VIRGIN **PLAYERS** 1 **COMPATIBILITIES** JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD, DUAL SHOCK PAD

Dino Crisis

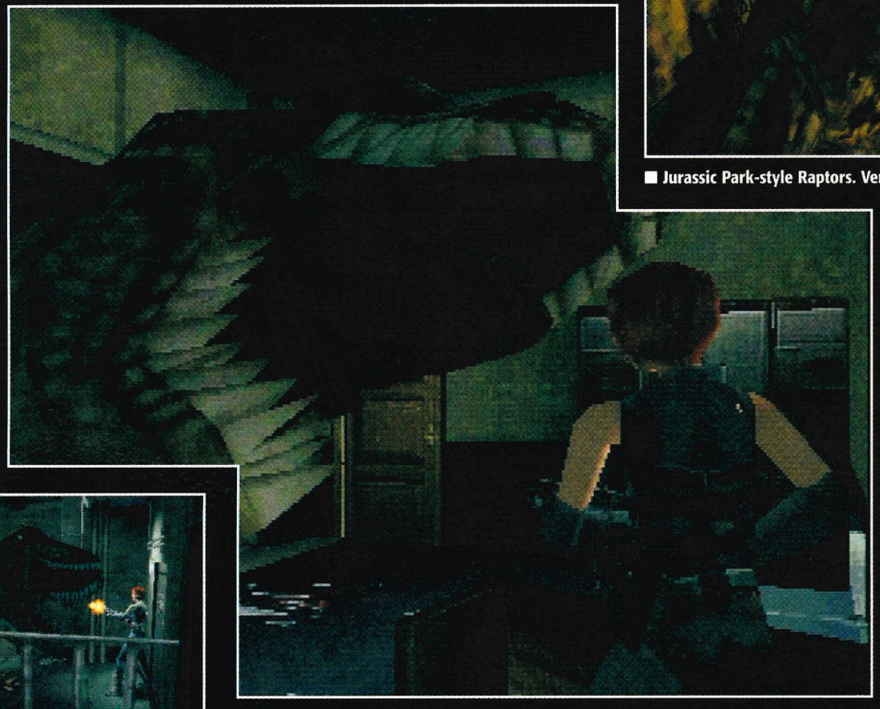
This looks bloody amazing. Yup, this is the big one for 99. The folks who brought you Resident Evil bring you Dino Crisis, a hyper-violent adventure effort set in an abandoned military base filled with massive, hungry lizards. We're promised gut-wrenching violence, rock 'ard puzzles, a twisty plot and dinos that'll make the ones in Jurassic Park look like muppets. Just check the visuals on these all-new shots. Tell your friends.



■ Jurassic Park-style Raptors. Very tasty



■ Useless gun arm sticking out of the jaws. Nice



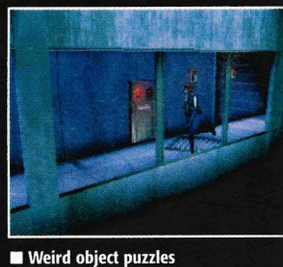
■ 'My, what big teeth you have.' 'All the better to tear out your gizzard with, my dear'



■ Suddenly guns don't look so powerful any more



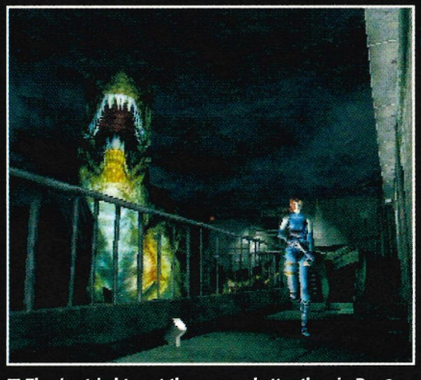
■ Puny gun vs very big dinosaur



■ Weird object puzzles



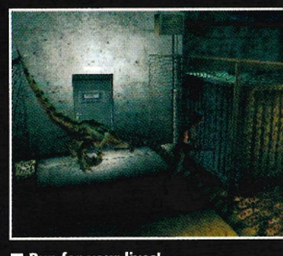
■ More lizards. This time thin ones. Takes all kinds...



■ They've tried to get the camera better than in Res 2



■ So you see the action from all sorts of angles

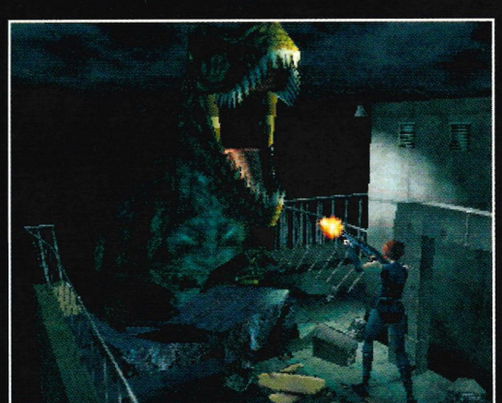


■ Run for your lives!

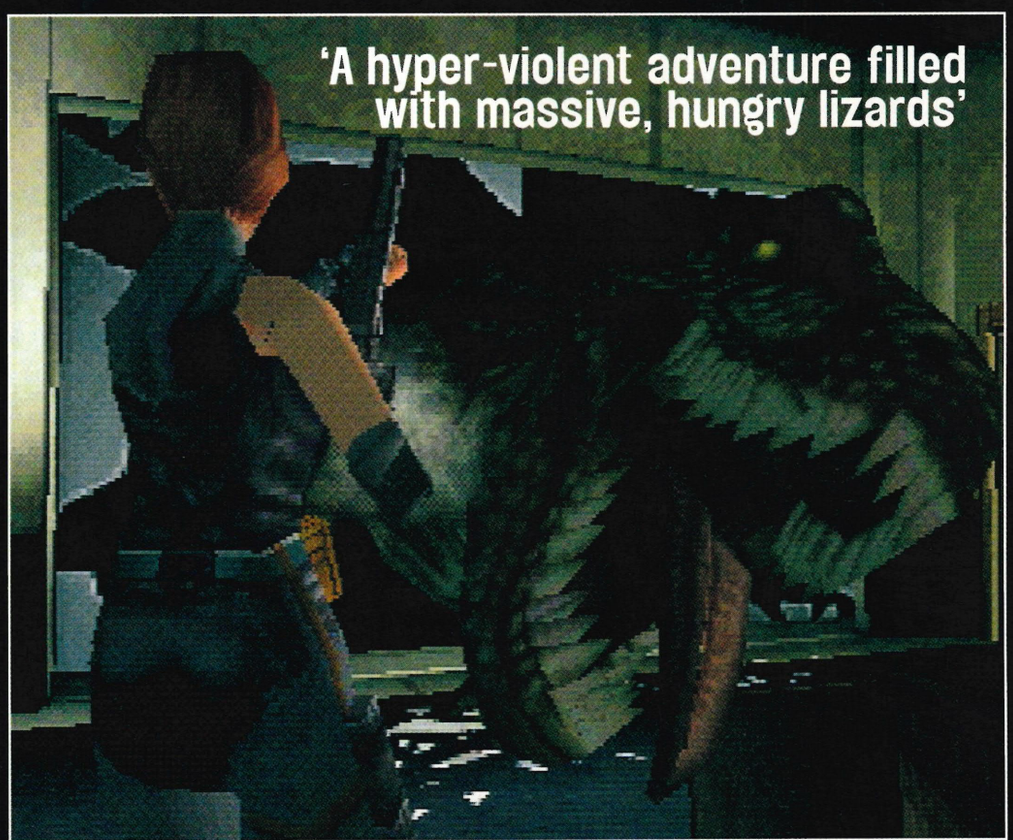
ST AND BEST SHOTS OU NEED TO SEE!



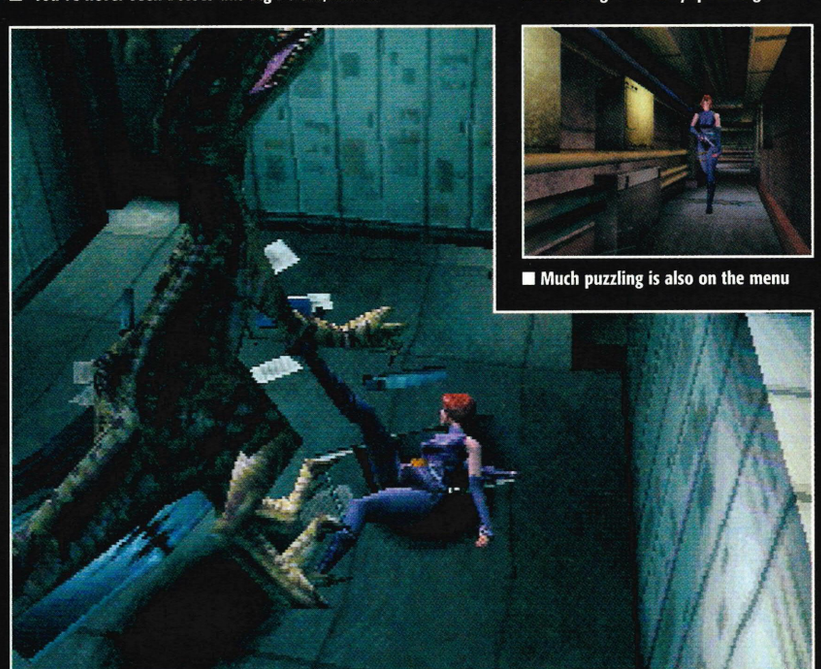
■ Clever Tyrannosaur does his 'Heeere's Johnny' bit.



■ You've never seen bosses this big before,. No lie

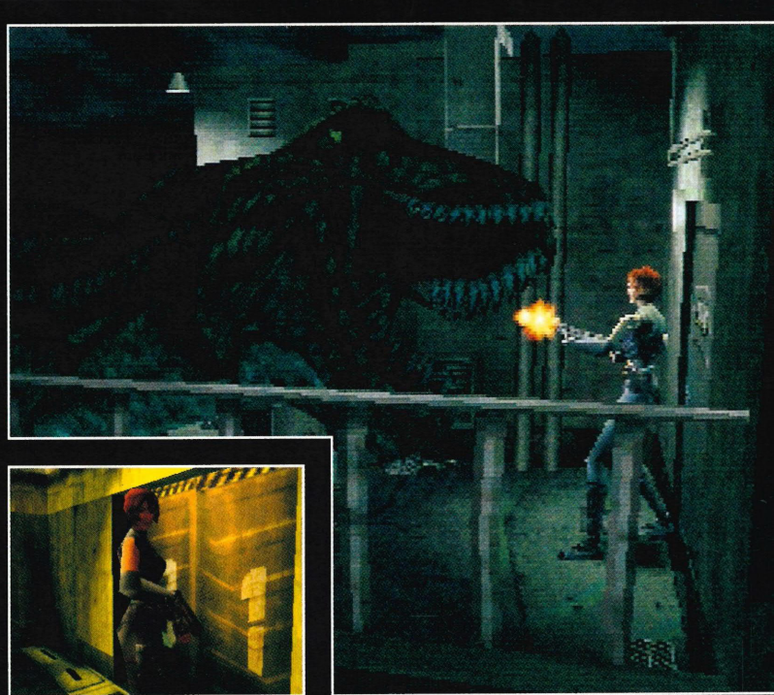


■ That tongue is really quite large



■ The female character bites it. Easy meat for the Raptor

■ Much puzzling is also on the menu



■ Shotgun down the gullet. A classic

■ Very natty jumpsuit. And nice gun

■ **OUT** JULY ■ **BY** ACCLAIM ■ **PLAYERS** 1-4 ■ **COMPATIBILITIES** JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD

WWF Attitude

Prepare for a little attitude adjustment courtesy of WWF Attitude.

As much as people like to belittle the world of wrestling, there is one fact that can't be ignored: people go mad for it. Like, crazy. From grown-ups to little tykes, big blokes in latex gets a big thumbs up. And it's not just the Yanks either, believe it or not us Brits have lapped up the countless wreslting games on the 'Station. But this could well be the best of 'em, taking the best bits of WWF Warzone and adding something new: Attitude.

Grapple fans ready

There's twice as many wrestlers than Warzone had to offer. All the old favourites are in here, like the Undertaker and Kane, plus heaps of new kids on the block, both male and female. The create-a-wrestler option has also been tweaked, so now you can fiddle with everything from mouth shape to the writing on the wrestler's clothing. Cool.

Festival of fighting

The number of wrestling modes has been cranked up. Now there are seven different title belts to contest, with tons of in-game options to expand the fighting experience. You can decide fights on who draws first blood, who's the last standing, who quits first, plus loads more. There's also a fighting season to compete in, taking you through house shows, to Monday-night Raw and, if you're good enough, pay-per-view.

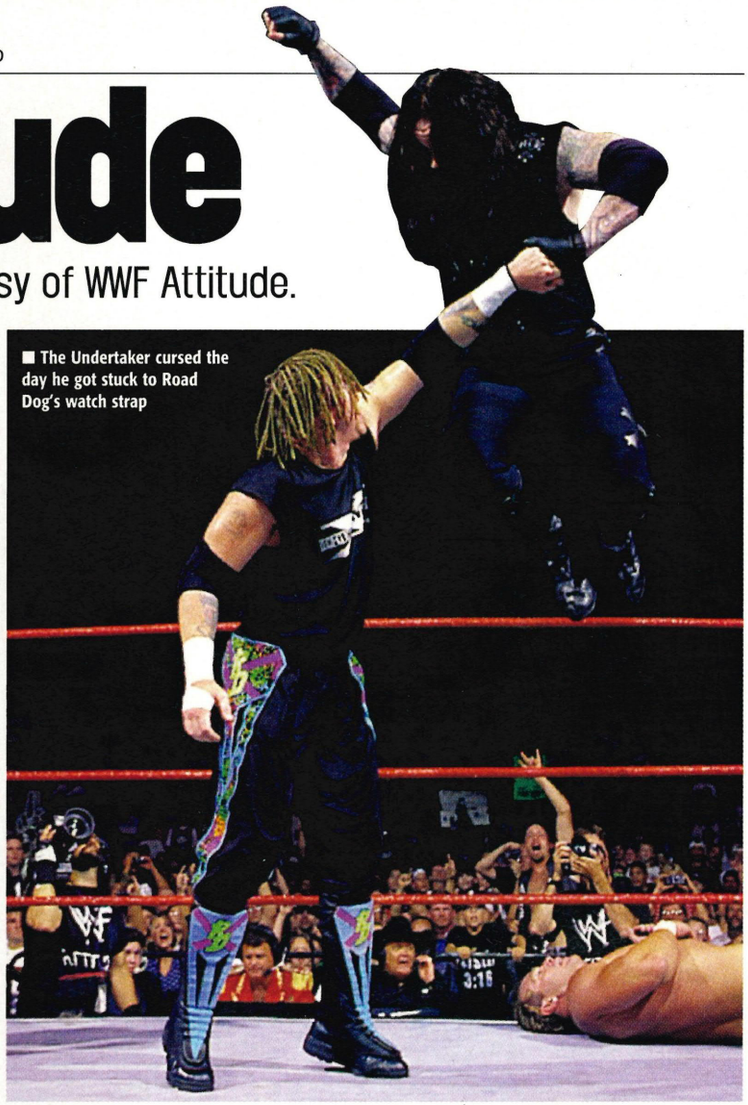
plus Warzone was good, but we reckon WWF Attitude is the real heavyweight.



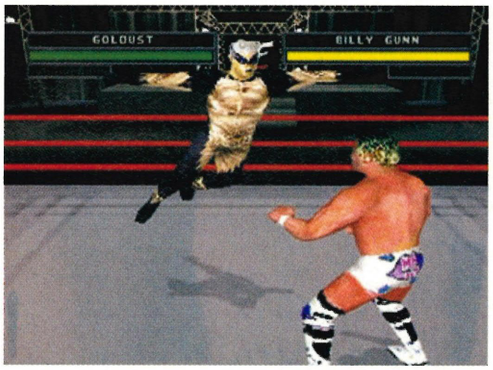
■ The Masonic handshake: difficult to master



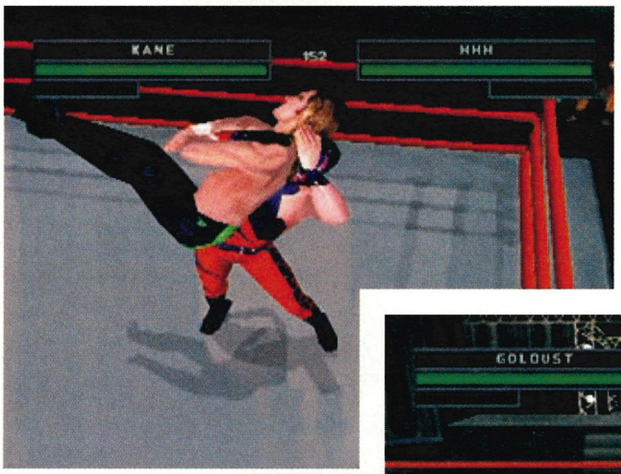
■ Bossman always stole everyone's lunch money



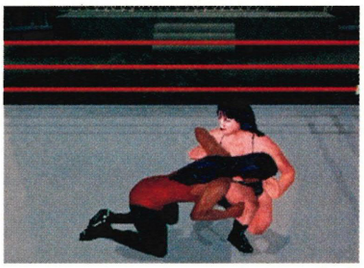
■ The Undertaker cursed the day he got stuck to Road Dog's watch strap



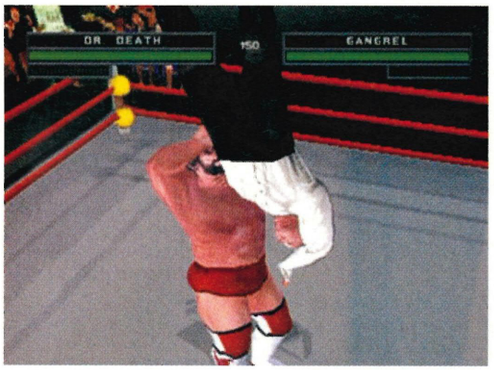
■ Billy Gunn looks stunned by Goldust's enormous pant beard



■ If it's fun you're after, this has got buckets



■ We'll let you make up your own mind



■ Sadly, smashing up the referee will not earn you extra points



■ Wrestlers enjoy a quick foxtrot before a bout



■ It's a known fact that some ladies go absolutely bonkers for men in Speedo trunks

■ **OUT** SEPTEMBER ■ **BY** GREMLIN ■ **PLAYERS** 1-4 ■ **COMPATIBILITIES** JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD, DUAL SHOCK PAD, MULTITAP

Gekido

Flash-looking fistfights against giant-sized gorillas. This you've gotta see...

Gekido means Rage Hard, which is pretty spot-on for a fighting game where the last guy standing wins. It's a Jap-looking beat 'em up, so the characters look sci-fi and have some slick chopsocky moves. But it's a lot different from Tekken 3.

New Old Skool

Gekido mixes bits of old skool scrolling fighters with flash 3D graphics. The result is a frantic fight through loads of levels, running though city streets, tackling bad guys as they appear. When you've whupped the ass of the small bad guys it's time to face the big boss at the end of the level. It's traditional stuff, but great nonetheless, especially when you string some awesome combos together.

Path finding

There are multiple routes through the game depending on which of the four fighters you choose, plus a load of weapons to play around with. In the standard game you and a mate can team up and fight the forces of evil, or up to four players fighting it out against each other in tasty arena mode.

plus Looks awesome but we've yet to have a decent play. As always we'll keep you informed, so stick with us



■ The fighting's fast and furious, and the effects are dazzling



■ Gekido is bright and colourful



■ This giant-sized gorilla thing's a toughie, so build up your rage before going in for the kill



■ Welcome to a schoolroom of the future



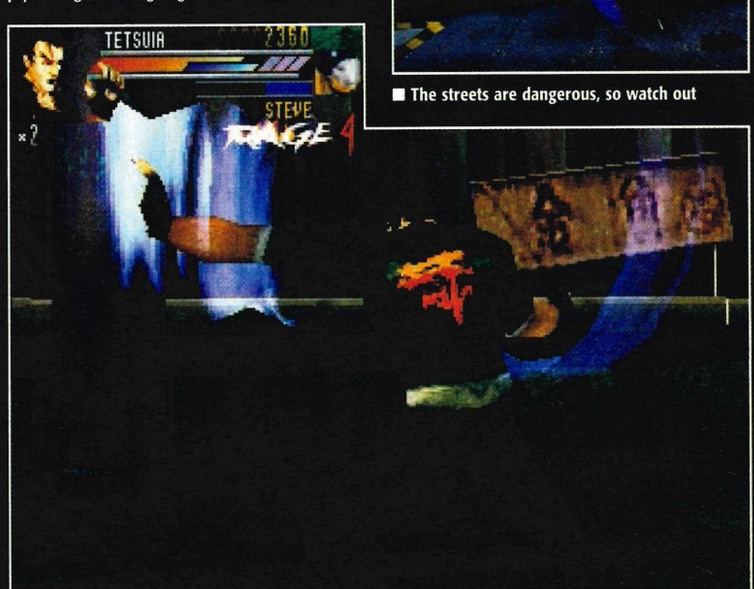
■ Hit 'em when they're down for extra damage



■ The streets are dangerous, so watch out



■ With a bit of practice it's pretty easy to executes some smart-looking attacks



■ Build up your Rage meter on the left to pull off some impressive special moves

■ **OUT** JULY ■ **BY** SONY ■ **PLAYERS** 1-4 ■ **COMPATIBILITIES** JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD, MULTITAP

Speed Freaks

Bubblegum racer for those who want added colour in their gaming diet...

You'll soon be able to get your kicks via the wacky world of Speed Freaks. Take a bunch of kids, get them on killer carts then add some crazy courses. So far so good. Add some mad power-ups, and a dash of carnage. Looking even better. Mix in some ridiculously far out handling and you've really got something to shout about.

Some specifics

You'll get to choose between six cute-ass kiddie characters. They range from the funky looking girl to the brainy boy. Cartoon cool's the watchword here. There's a great range of tracks to tackle, all of the futuristic free roaming variety. Gran Turismo this ain't. The accent is definitely on fun, and multiplayer fun at that. Yep, you heard right, it's gonna have a four-player option. Cool.

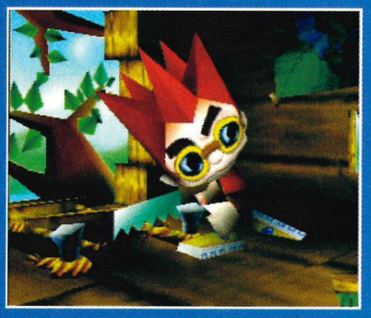
Already looking fine, but it's the four-player game which really floats our boat. If you fast 'n' fun car wars, this could be your lucky ticket.



■ Atta boy Tempest, go for the burn!



■ Courses look tricksy



■ Meet Tempest, a dab hand at D.I.Y.



■ You need to pick these up



■ The chase is on and you're in sixth so get motoring



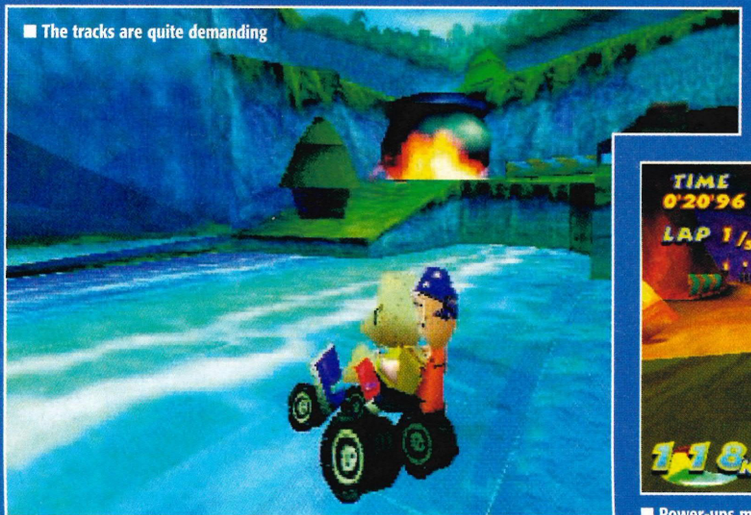
■ This is a racing game, so getting ahead's what matters



■ Corners can be a bit hairy



■ Don't hit the sides now



■ The tracks are quite demanding

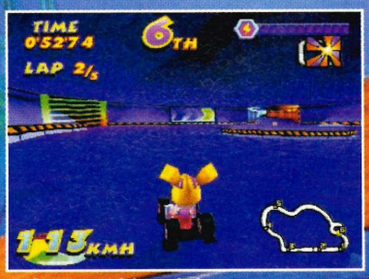


■ You've got to be ruthless. Thanks to lotsa power-ups, you can be



■ Power-ups mean turbo action

'Far-out power-ups, mad handling, carnage...'



■ There's roundabouts in here



■ Plenty of insane crashes, too



■ This game isn't based around realism

Blab

Real-time role-player with lap dancers. Now that sounds tasty!

■ **OUT** OCTOBER ■ **BY** EIDOS ■ **PLAYERS** 1 ■ **COMPATIBILITIES** JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD

Omnikron

■ Remember kids, smoking is bad for your health

■ This game looks well spooky. Be warned

Sounds like a watch, but really it's something you should, erm, watch out for.

Think of a gamer who plays RPGs. Are they wearing an anorak? Thought so. Y'see there's common misconception that all role-playing games are dull, but that's just not true, especially with Omnikron. Unlike turn-based stuff like Final Fantasy VII, this is a real-time RPG, meaning you're in control of everything your character does.

Parallel lines

Omnikron is a vast self-contained city. It's covered by a dome to protect it from the harsh outer world and your task is to hunt down the demon Astaroth. This guy's been awakened and has infiltrated Omnikron, tapping into the city's central computer and taking control of most of the civilians. And yep, this hellspawn's not using his new-found minions to arrange a Millennium shin-dig. Things are about to turn nasty...

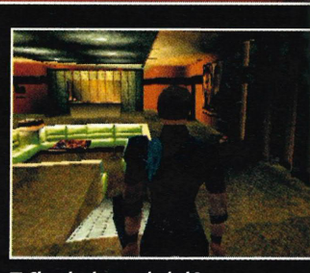
Heart of evil

Kitted out with super powers, you've got to defeat the demon. Simple as that. What this boils down to is much spell-casting, set across stunning backdrops. Oh, and there are some cool vehicles to play around with AND a lap-dancing sequence!

plus *Expect great things from this 'un.*



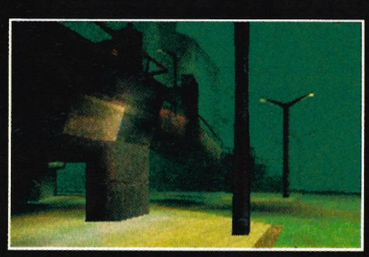
■ In the future all bedrooms will be beige



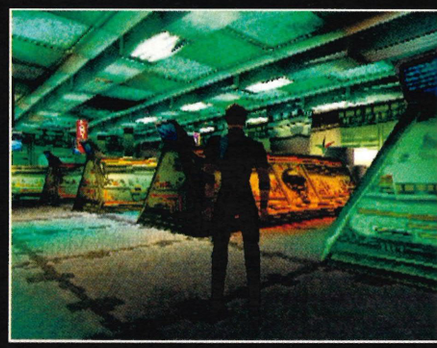
■ Class backgrounds, huh?



■ There's a supercomputer out of control



■ The streets were strangely quiet



■ All the citizens want your blood. Unlucky


KERRANG!
the loudest magazine
on the planet.

Blab

Death from above, below and either side. No-one said war was easy!

■ **OUT** SEPTEMBER ■ **BY** INFOGRAMES ■ **PLAYERS** 1-2 ■ **COMPATIBILITIES** JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD, DUAL SHOCK PAD

Eagle One: Harrier Attack

First Biggles. Then Tom Cruise. Now you...

Here's the deal. A terrorist organisation has seized control of a group of Hawaiian islands. The US president has responded swiftly by mobilising the Marine Corps task force. Taking on the role of Eagle One, your task is to head this strike force in your multipurpose Harrier Jumpjet and regain control of the islands.

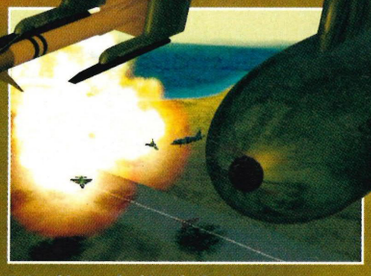
Ready for take off

What this basically amounts to is flying death-defying missions through hostile airspace, attempting mid-air rescues of innocent civilians and hijacking top secret 'black jet' super planes and helicopters. Or, if you get bored of all the mission stuff, you could always battle it out head-to-head against a mate in the two-player dogfight game. Yep, there's no shortage of variety.

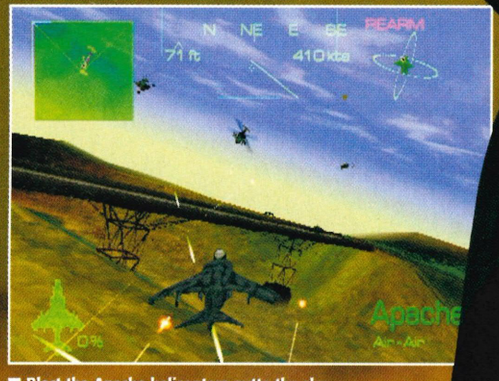
PSP: This certainly looks sweet and is jammed with missions, but it's the two-player game that's gets us going.



■ Your jet is well tooled-up



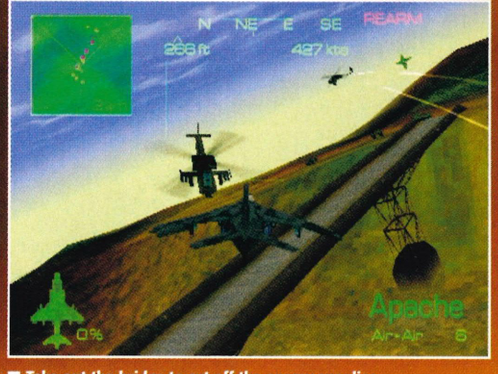
■ Graphics are looking the business



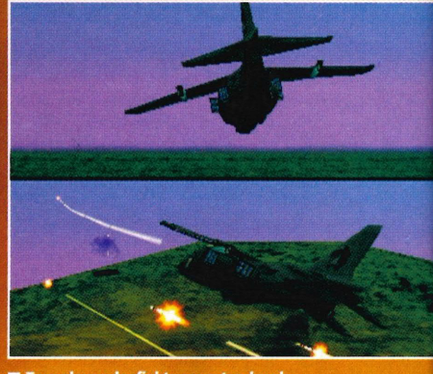
■ Blast the Apache helicopters outta the sky



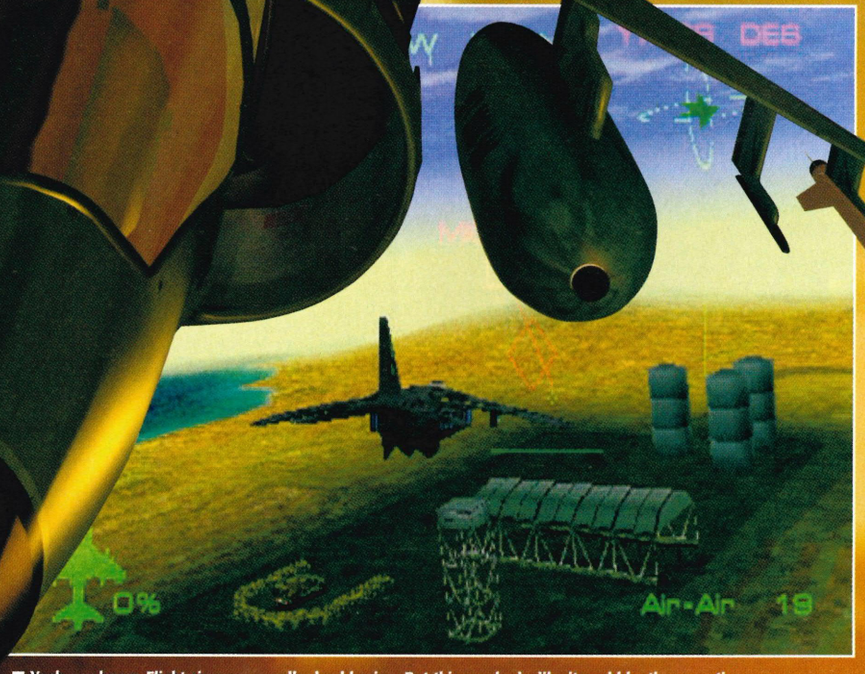
■ Blow the enemy planes to pieces before they even have time to take off



■ Take out the bridge to cut off the enemy supplies



■ Two-player dogfights are a top laugh

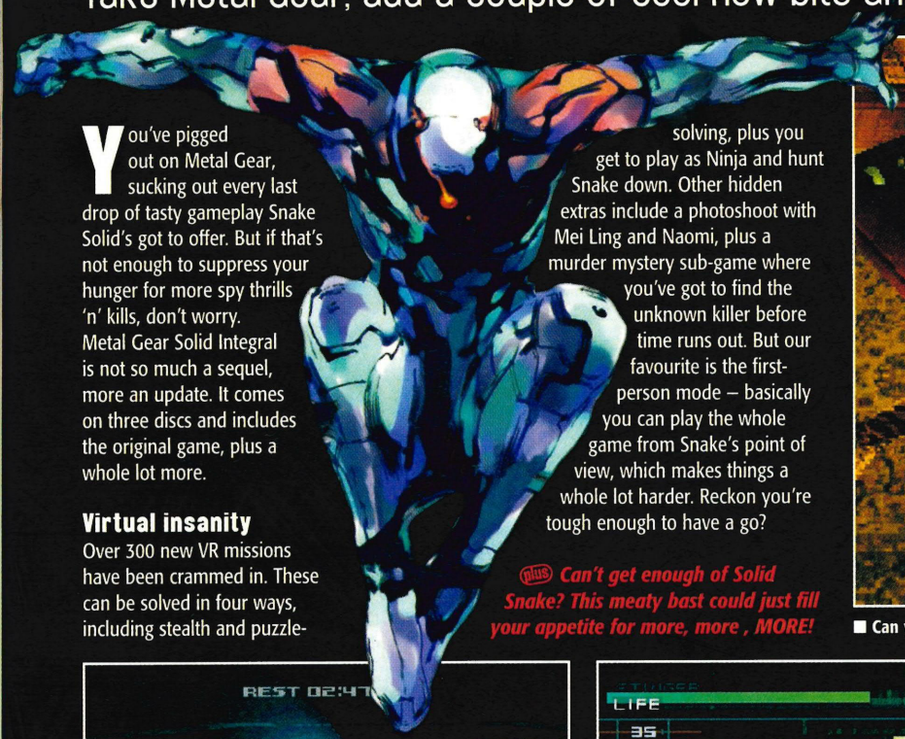


■ Yeah, we know. Flight sims are usually dead boring. But this one looks like it could be the exception

■ **OUT** AUGUST ■ **BY** KONAMI ■ **PLAYERS** 1 ■ **COMPATIBILITIES** JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD, DUAL SHOCK PAD, POCKETSTATION

Metal Gear Solid Integral

Take Metal Gear, add a couple of cool new bits and this is what you get



You've pigged out on Metal Gear, sucking out every last drop of tasty gameplay Snake Solid's got to offer. But if that's not enough to suppress your hunger for more spy thrills 'n' kills, don't worry. Metal Gear Solid Integral is not so much a sequel, more an update. It comes on three discs and includes the original game, plus a whole lot more.

Virtual insanity

Over 300 new VR missions have been crammed in. These can be solved in four ways, including stealth and puzzle-solving, plus you get to play as Ninja and hunt Snake down. Other hidden extras include a photoshoot with Mei Ling and Naomi, plus a murder mystery sub-game where you've got to find the unknown killer before time runs out. But our favourite is the first-person mode – basically you can play the whole game from Snake's point of view, which makes things a whole lot harder. Reckon you're tough enough to have a go?

plus Can't get enough of Solid Snake? This meaty bast could just fill your appetite for more, more , MORE!



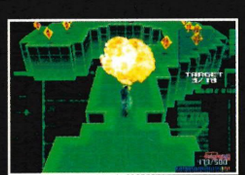
■ Can you find the killer within the time limit? Use the clues before your five minutes is up



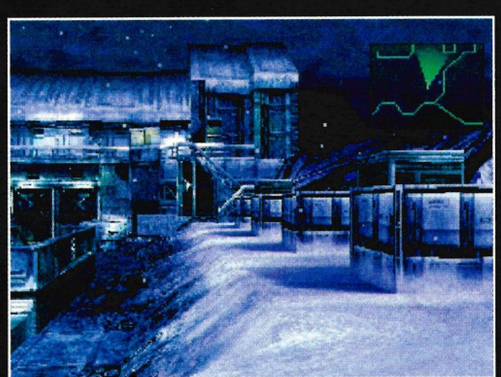
■ No matter how hard you try, Naomi won't unbutton her blouse



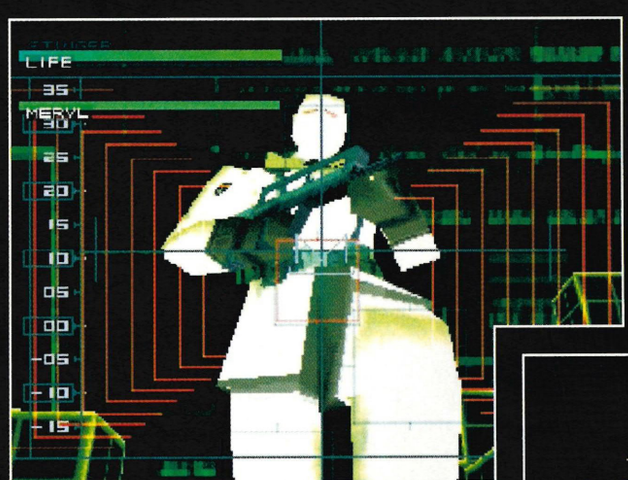
■ But too much of that and you'll get a slap!



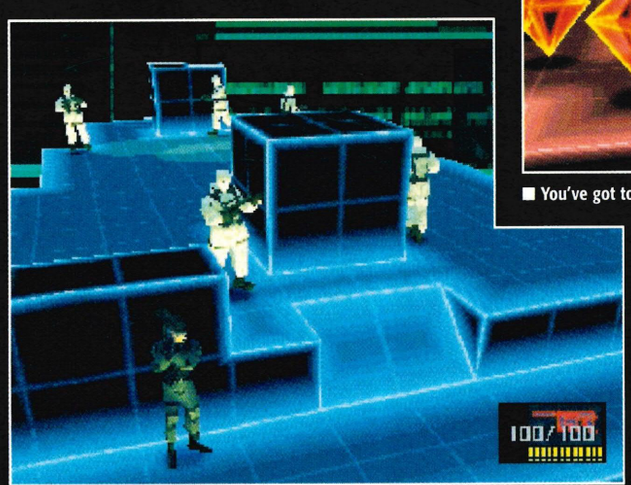
■ There are four ways to complete the 300 new VR levels



■ Forget the old top down view, the SnakeCam™ really kicks ass



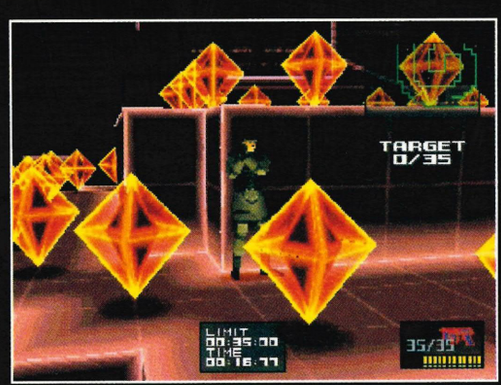
■ This is no optical illusion, this guard really is the size of Godzilla! Break out the rockets and frag his sorry ass



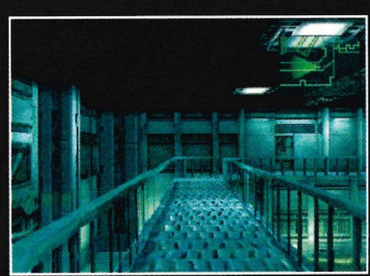
■ The faster you complete the VR stages, the better the rank you receive



■ Mei Ling loves the camera, even though she's no page 3 stunna. Shudder



■ You've got to grab each gem in order to complete this level



■ This view gives the game a very different feel

OUT SEPTEMBER **BY** SONY **PLAYERS** 1 **COMPATIBILITIES** JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD, DUAL SHOCK PAD

Ape Escape update

Technicolour monkey business that'll get your Dual Shock all excited

More child-friendly gaming thrills. It's got bright colours. It's got big-eyed characters. It's got platform action. But what it's also got is an all-new control system which means you can only use the Dual Shock to play. You even get to use that weird bit on the analogue stick which clicks when you push it down. Innovation!

Ape shall never kill ape

See, the idea of the game is this. You're chasing monkeys through loads of different time zones. You've got an assortment of monkey-catching gizmos at your disposal, which you control with one of the sticks, while you use the other one to move. It's not quite the Next Generation of Control Systems, but it's really rather dinky. And the game's looking like a bit of a giggle as well. More news as we get it...

plus This isn't going to rock the gaming world to its foundations, but it looks and plays fairly slick...



■ The lighting effects are absolutely stunning. Look! Swirly bits!



■ Not-quite-cunning-enough hiding place



■ Little enemies pop up to irritate you while you hunt ape



■ An ape fails to escape



■ The first underwater monkey bites the bullet



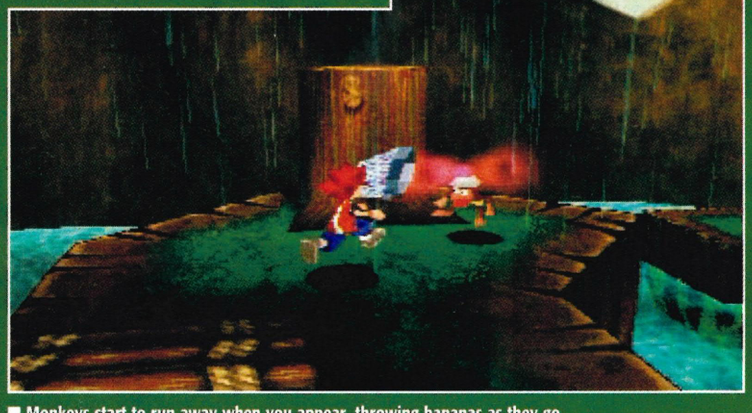
■ All sorts of secret bits and extra stuff is hidden away in the game



■ Underwater monkeys can be a total bitch to catch



■ Magic net catches



■ Monkeys start to run away when you appear, throwing bananas as they go



■ Hectic platform action



■ Monkeys hide in eggs

■ **OUT** SEPTEMBER ■ **BY** ACCOLADE ■ **PLAYERS** 1-2 ■ **COMPATIBILITIES** JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD, DUAL SHOCK PAD

Demolition Racer

Race motors. Then crash 'em. Well what did you expect with a name like Demolition Racer?

Yeah, so it's a driving game. We can figure out that much. But this one puts a different spin on the bog-standard formula. For starters, smashing up your motor isn't just allowed. It's positively encouraged. See, the idea is to do whatever it takes to finish races in first place, which basically amounts to ramming the rest of the field into submission at every opportunity.

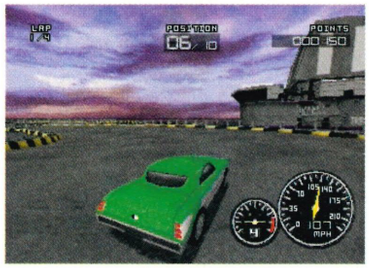
Road rage

Demolition Racer boasts 12 tracks all designed to encourage maximum carnage. On the menu are enormous jumps which send the cars into 360 degree mid-air spins, crossovers to ensure plenty of head-on collisions and branching side-roads providing alternate routes. Best of all are the bowl matches, where 16 cars take part in a massive orgy of destruction.

Sounds familiar...

OK, so it's hardly the most original idea for a game (anyone remember Destruction Derby?). But Demolition Racer looks like bringing home a top stock-car racing experience. We're promised massively spectacular collisions with huge amounts of debris and car parts flying off in all directions. A split-screen two-player mode is also in the works, allowing you and a mate to battle it out head-to-head.

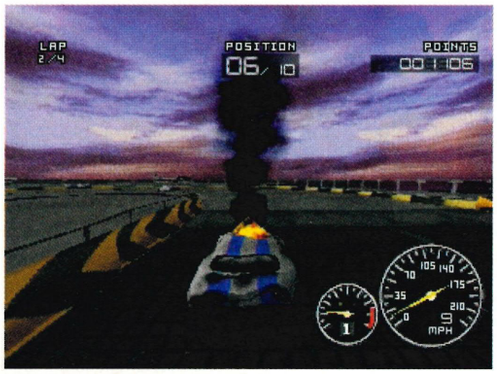
***plus** Wreckin' motors is always good for a laugh. We'll keep you informed...*



■ It's early days, but we reckon this could be top



■ You can replay the entire race from any angle to get the best view of the carnage

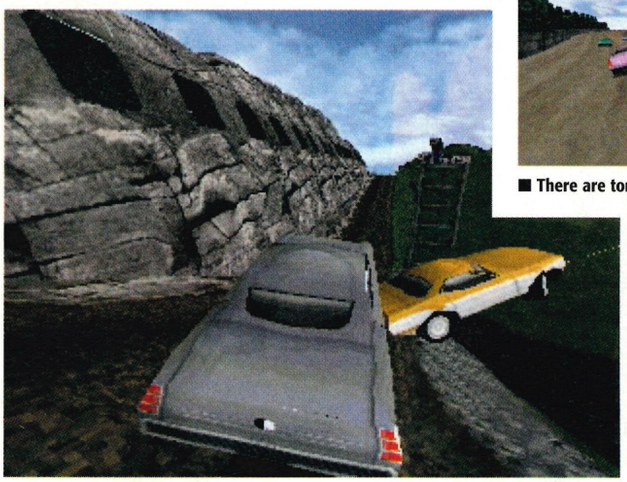


■ Finishing in first place earns you extra cars and secret courses



■ There are tons of classic Yank motors to smash


■ One of the hidden routes


■ Expect the cars to get totally destroyed in the finished game



■ Bowls are designed for maximum destruction



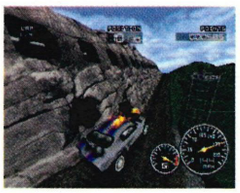
■ The high-speed oval circuits are excellent for massive pile-ups



■ Too many head-on collisions and your car will grind to a halt



■ Flames pour out of the bonnet when your car's wrecked


■ Flip out on the huge jumps


■ Looks impressive, dunnit?

■**OUT** JUNE ■**BY** INFOGRAMES ■**PLAYERS** 1
■**COMPATIBILITIES** JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD, DUAL SHOCK PAD

Bugs Bunny: Lost in Time

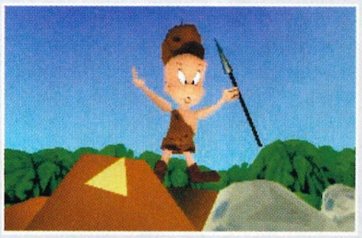
Can you rescue the buck-toothed bunny in this hare-raising platformer?

You spend most of Lost in Time legging it around some lush 3D worlds, solving basic puzzles and trouncing familiar cartoon characters. The time zones range from Prehistoric platform action to baddie bashing in the future, but one thing stays the same – you've gotta collect as many gold carrots as possible, otherwise Bugs can't use the time machine to get home.

Sweet sub-games

There are some smart sub-games to tuck into, including a Marvin the Martian obstacle race. Watch out for the cameo appearances from Elmer Fudd, Daffy Duck and Yosemite Sam, who are all after the wascally wabbit's fluffy ass.

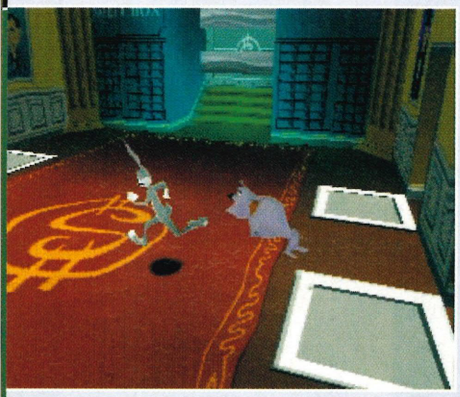
plus Looks flash and plays OK, but we reckon it's best left for the young 'uns. We'll let you know next month.



■ Elmer makes a caveman cameo



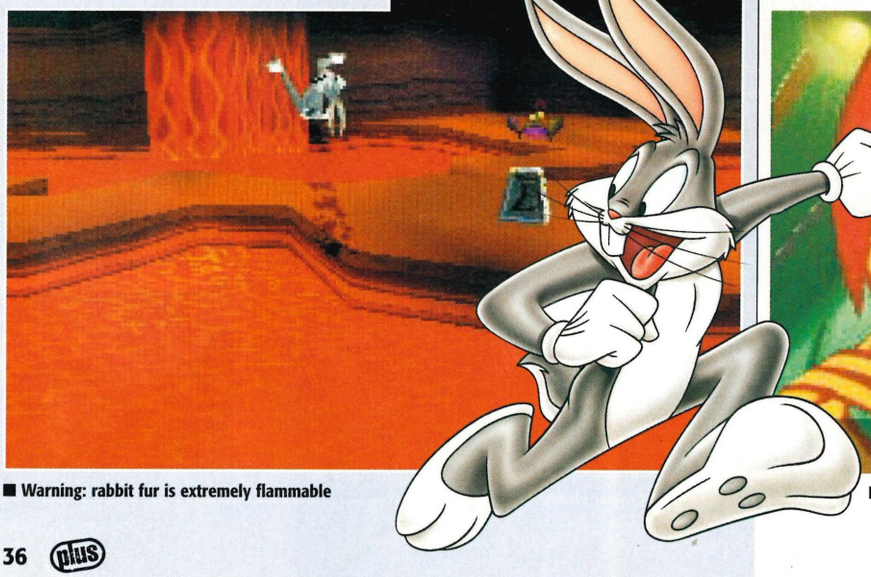
■ Marvin's got the time, but can you get it back?



■ Entice the bulldog with the bones, not your ass



■ Easy puzzle. Hit block to get carrot



■ Warning: rabbit fur is extremely flammable

■**OUT** SEPTEMBER ■**BY** SONY ■**PLAYERS** 1
■**COMPATIBILITIES** JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD, DUAL SHOCK PAD

Parappa the Rapper 2

Parappa lays down the mic. A pink guitar sheep takes to the stage instead...

PaRappa the Rapper was a strong contender for the much-coveted crown of Weirdest Game of All Time. You played a rapping dog, and what you had to do was hit keys in time to the music to make PaRappa leap into the mix with some 'dope rhymes'. (God, we know all the happening words). But now it's sequel time, and the mic-wielding mutt has been replaced with Lammy, a rock sheep...

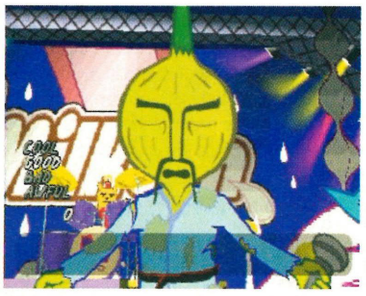
We will rock ewe

The basic idea's still the same: a little meter along the top shows you when to hit your keys so's little Lammy will leap into the mix with guitar licks of awesome mosh power. If you think that sounds simple, you'd be right. But with a fine line in comedy lyrics, weird visuals and cameos from old PaRappa faves like the Chop Chop Master Onion Head, it's definitely worth a look...

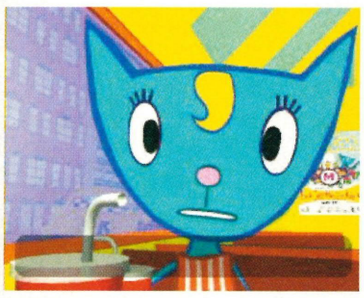
plus More of a curiosity than a must-have More news very soon indeed...



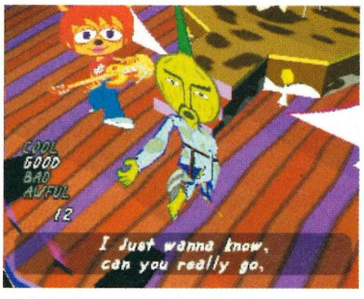
■ Lammy rocks the kasbah. Whatever that means



■ The Chop Chop Master returns to the stage



■ One of Lammy's mates. Looking surprised



■ The lyrics are as weird as ever

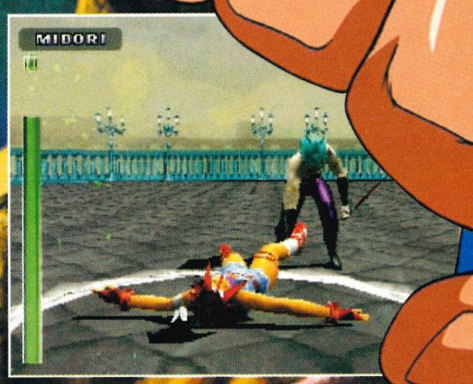


■ The plot really is unspeakably bad. But Japophiles will go nuts for it, we're guessing

■ **OUT** JUNE ■ **BY** TITUS/D.I. ■ **PLAYERS** 1-2 ■ **COMPATIBILITIES** JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD, DUAL SHOCK PAD

Evil Zone

Slick Jap tough nuts go mental in a fury of fists and feet.



■ She's taking a beating all right

Evil Zone's a Manga-fuelled 3D fighter. Mixing mega-fast moves with futuristic fighters, you play as one of ten tough guys brought together by the evil witch Ihadurka. Your task? It's a fight to the death, just make sure it's not yours.

Easy stuff

Evil Zone may come as a tonic to those who thought Tekken 3's control system was closer to PHD than GCSE. You only use two buttons to fight, one for attack and the other for defend. This doesn't mean there aren't many moves though,'cos along with the usual blocks, kicks and punches, there's some very bizarre and colourful special moves which give the game a funky Jap cartoon feel. Nice.

***plus** Pretty simple stuff but it looks decent enough. No Tekken 3, though*



■ Fast as lightning



■ Do not try this at home



■ Flame-grilled, mighty tasty lighting effects



■ Head straight for the knackers. That always works



■ Big swords take longer to swing, so you're open to attack



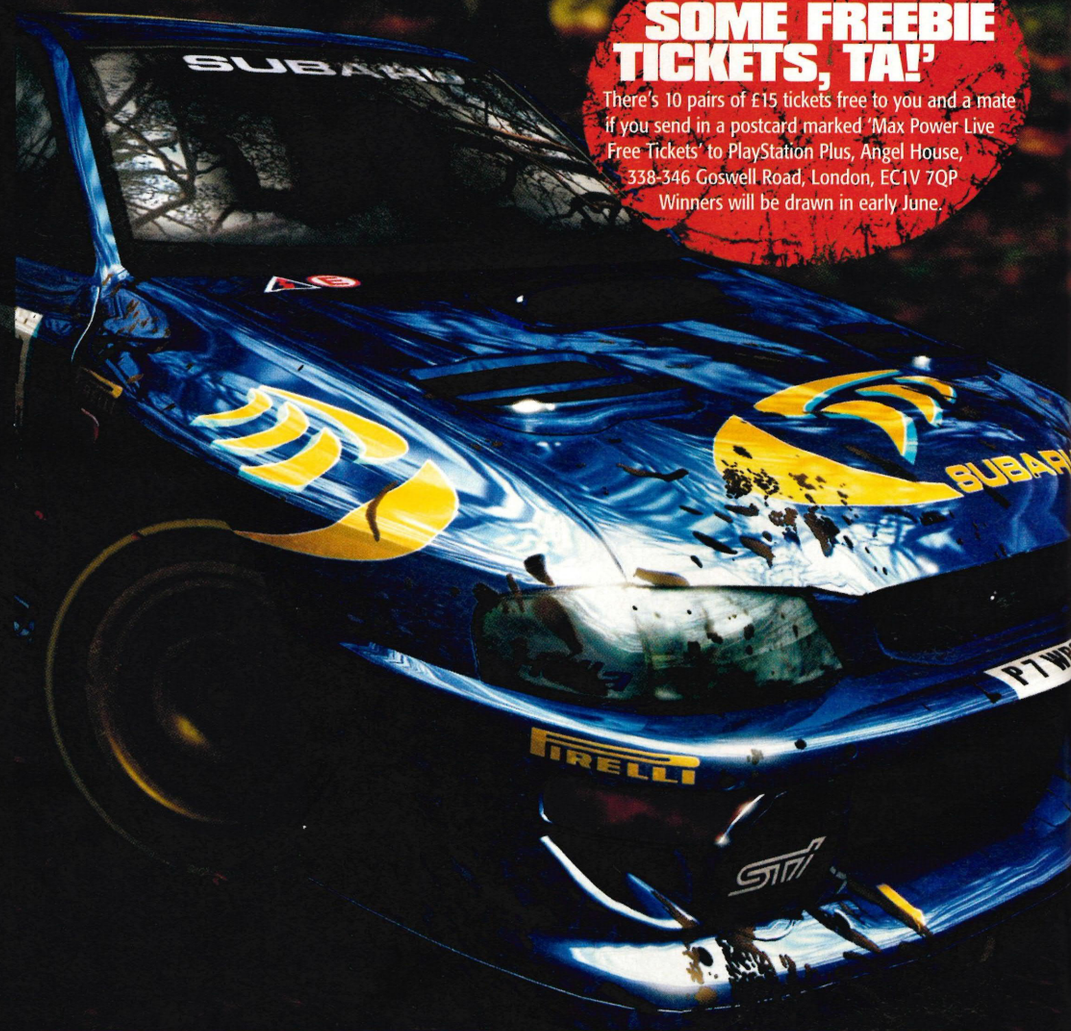
■ Stand back and let rip with long range attacks



■ You've got to learn to block or you're toast

WHO D'YA THINK YOU ARE? COLIN MCRAE?

Show off your racin' skills at the PlayStation Plus-Max Power Live Driving Game Championship on 2-4 July



'GIMME SOME FREEBIE TICKETS, TA!'

There's 10 pairs of £15 tickets free to you and a mate if you send in a postcard marked 'Max Power Live Free Tickets' to PlayStation Plus, Angel House, 338-346 Goswell Road, London, EC1V 7QP Winners will be drawn in early June.

It's simple really DO YOU...

- want to play the latest racing games such as V-Rally 2, WipEout 3, Le Mans 24 Hours and Ridge Racer 4?
- want to win a 24-inch stack of free games?
- like free £15 tickets for you and a mate to visit Max Power Live at Birmingham's NEC?
- want to get your mug in the mag and earn yourself hot peripherals and games?
- fancy meeting Jordan and a clutch of awesome models?
- want £10 just to talk to the PlayStation Plus team about what you're into?

Yeah? Then scribble in your diary 'Max Power Live' on 2-4 July at Birmingham's NEC where all this and a shedload more will happen.

The UK's first pukka PlayStation Driving Game Championship will be held at the fastest, loudest car show ever. We'll be running head-to-head races on the main stage throughout the three days.

The finalists earn stacks of freebie games and the winner walks away with a pile of prizes and the Driving Game Champion crown.

But that's only part of it – a £15 ticket from the phone hotline 0121 767 4101 also gives you access to the outdoor cruise strip, indoor dyno tests, a burn-out pad, In Car Entertainment sound shootout, a chill-out zone plus a big bucket-load of babes. We'll see ya there!

PLAY THE HOT STUFF WITH US

At the PlayStation Plus stand at Max Power Live you will find a stack of new and unseen games to get your hands on first – V-Rally 2, Ridge Racer Type 4, WipEout 3, Speed Freaks and Le Mans 24 Hours. Us lot from the mag will be there to give tips and advice.

Our cool Aprilia scooters from this month's awesome competition (p52) will be there as well. And we'll give you a tenner if you're up for 30 minutes of talk about what you're into from games to music – easy money!

WHAT MATTERS

WHEN? 2-4 JULY FROM 9AM TO 6PM
WHERE? BIRMINGHAM'S NEC

WHAT'S IT ALL ABOUT?

Max Power Live features 120+ tuning, modifying and in-car entertainment stands, an outdoor daily sprint challenge, DJ Chill Out Zone, a brace of top bikini babes including Jordan, engine performance shootouts, and ICE testing.

Tickets cost £15 from the ticket hotline 0121 767 4101 which includes a trackside seat at the Cruise Strip. Or get 'em on the door and pay £3 extra for a seat.

THE FASTEST, LOUDEST CAR SHOW EVER!

- 1000's of Modified Cars
- Cruise Strip
- Live Driving Action
- Live Entertainment and Competitions
- Best in Tuning and Styling Products
- Dyno Power Testing
- In Car Entertainment
- DJ Chill Out Zone



STOP PRESS
WORLDS MOST RADICAL CLIO REVEALED.
JUNE ISSUE OF MAX POWER, ON SALE NOW
STOP PRESS





Tickets in advance include FREE grandstand seat at the Cruise Strip (£3 on the door). Group discounts available.



MAX POWER LIVE

THE FASTEST, LOUDEST CAR SHOW EVER!

2-4 JULY BIRMINGHAM NEC

ticket hotline 0121 767 4101 ticket price £15

Parking prices: £4 cars £10 coaches

DAILY STAR

Ref:PL

HMV
thechallenge continues...

HMV Exclusive Free Multi-Tap When You Buy This Game*

V-RALLY 2 CHAMPIONSHIP EDITION

V-Rally 2

Not satisfied with setting the benchmark in '97 and '98, the creators of 'V-Rally 2' go a whole step further and are set to change the future of gaming altogether. Features 20 official cars, a brand new 3D engine enabling improved car dynamics and collision system, 92 tracks over 12 different countries, unprecedented realism, full dual shock compatibility and much much more. The unique track editor and 4-player mode will provide never ending challenges, guaranteed to be the showcase of any console.



CROC 2 © Argonaut Software Ltd. 1999. All rights reserved. CROC 2 is a trademark of Argonaut Software Ltd. 1999 ©1999 Twentieth Century Fox Film Corporation. All rights reserved.

Croc 2™

Croc's back in an exciting new adventure as he searches for his long lost parents. But the search soon becomes a showdown as Croc's archenemy, Baron Dante, is magically resurrected by his evil Dantinis. Join Croc's journey as he explores a multitude of levels within four Gobbo tribe villages, each packed with unique Gobbos, mischievous monsters and tons of fun!

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*Subject to availability at participating stores while stocks last.

News Just In

■ **OUT** SPRING 2000 ■ **BY** PSYGNOSIS

Destruction Derby 3

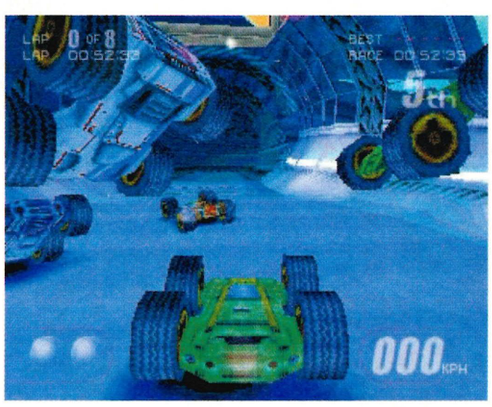
The third game in the wreckin' racing series revealed!

Destruction Derby 3 is gonna be exploding onto the 'Station early next year. The latest addition to the stock car racing series will feature a whopping 25 tracks – each designed to ensure maximum destruction, a massive variety of new motors to smash into billions of pieces and a smart customisable car option. New game modes this time around include a punishing 'destruction mode', multiplayer deathmatches and challenging 'crazy tracks'. We're really looking forward to this one.

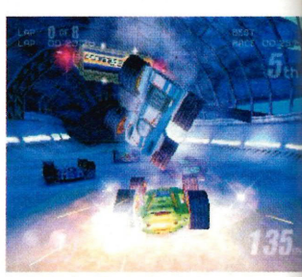
Rollcage 2 revealed!

Sequel to the eye-bleedingly fast racer is on its way

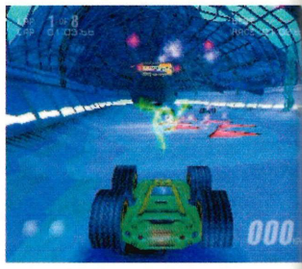
The sequel to the scorchin' futuristic road-rage game, Rollcage, is gonna blast its way onto the 'Station. Rollcage Extreme keeps the same blend of action and 360 degree racing as before, and chucks in 20 new circuits over six different worlds, tons more vehicles and a vast array of new weapon power-ups. Once again, strategic destruction of the scenery around you is the key to getting ahead of the opposition, with plenty of outlandish trackside buildings and obstacles just waiting to be demolished. New game modes for the sequel include a rubble soccer game, a survivor mode, a destruction time attack and a brand-new multiplayer tournament. Rollcage Extreme is gonna hit the shops early next year.



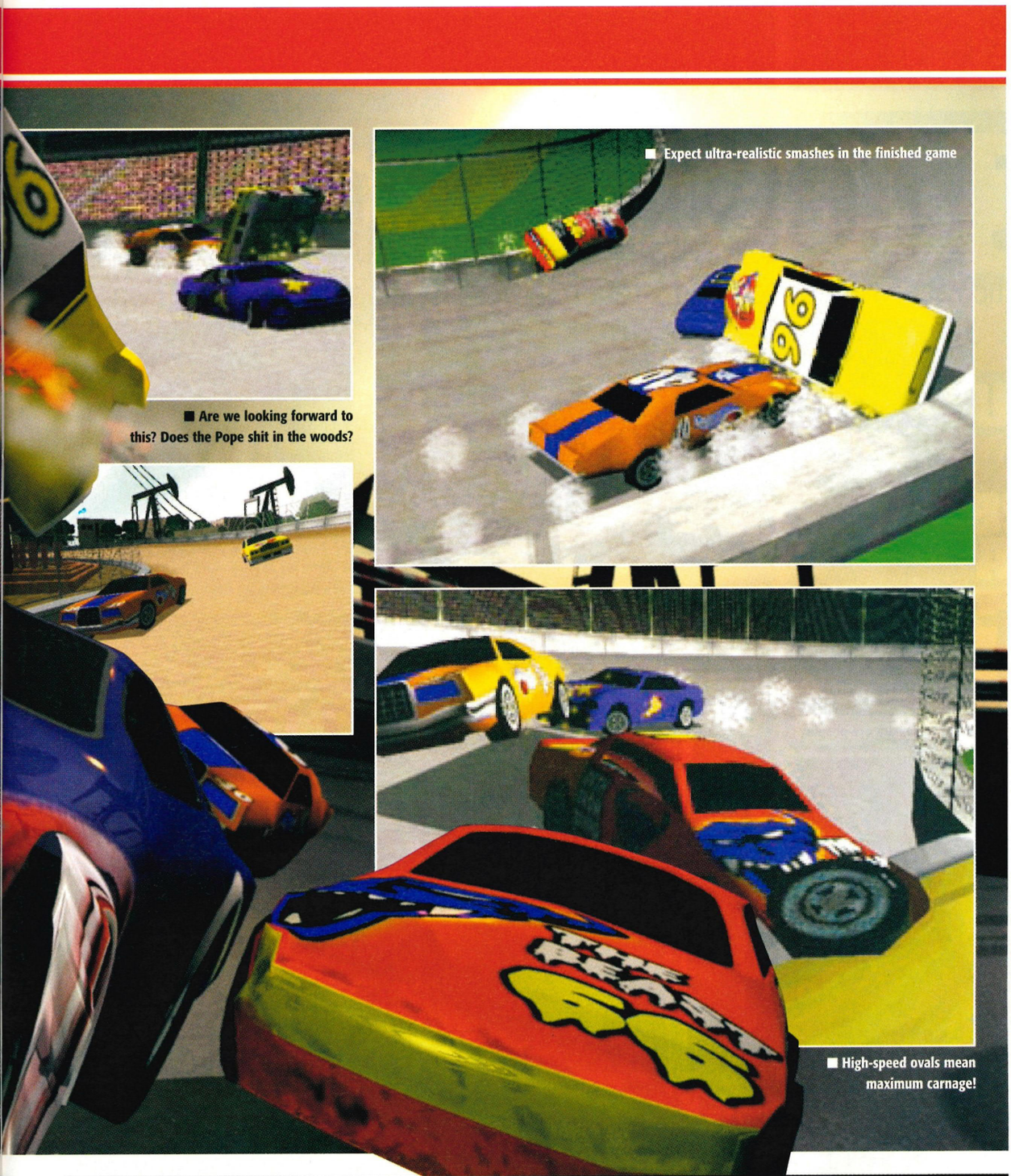
■ There are tons more cars and tracks to burn around this time



■ Graphics are looking top



■ New weapons? You betcha



■ Are we looking forward to this? Does the Pope shit in the woods?

■ Expect ultra-realistic smashes in the finished game

■ High-speed ovals mean maximum carnage!

GODZILLA COMPO WINNER

This is Derek Jenkins from Gwent. He's a lucky bleeder. Entered our Godzilla Size Does Matter compo and now he's got a scale-encrusted new Sony video player and box fresh copy of Godzilla from top Plus mates Columbia TriStar. So it's all round to Derek's place at ten tonight then? Turn to page 52 for another blinding compo.

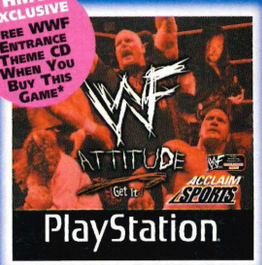


'I'M A LUCKY BLEEDER'

HMV

thechallenge continues...

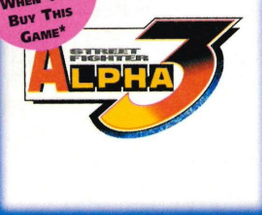
HMV Exclusive Free WWF Entrance Theme CD When You Buy This Game*



WWF Attitude

Now contains over 40 of your favourite WWF superstars, all photo realistic with real-life face characteristics. Featuring all-new motion captured manoeuvres by the premier wrestlers, the ability to customise your wrestler's moves from your favourite superstars and three brand new arena environments. With over 20 game modes including previously unseen speciality matches, 'WWF Attitude' slams its competitors into the ropes.

HMV Exclusive Free T-Shirt When You Buy This Game*



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Street Fighter Alpha 3

From the Alpha branch of the Street Fighter tree, 'Street Fighter Alpha 3' has several completely new features as well as tweaked existing ones. Customise your favourite characters in World Tour mode, possibly the best new touch of the game. Here you can travel the world dishing out excessive physicality in any country that can offer an opponent. Includes all the characters from the Street Fighter series plus new, hidden characters to battle it out against some of the most detailed backdrops to grace the fighting scene.

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*Subject to availability at participating stores while stocks last.

First pics: WipEout 3

Retina-ripping futuristic racer speeding to the 'Station this year! We got the full lowdown...

Here are the very first bona fide screenshots of what looks sure to be this year's biggest 'Station game – WipEout 3. No new information is available on the ultra-fast futuristic racer, but here's what we know so far: the game features eight new circuits set in futuristic cities, three new racing teams in addition to the five in WipEout 2097, seven new weapon power-ups, a smart split-screen two-player mode, dual shock compatibility and music tracks from top house DJ, Sasha. We'll have tons more on this next month!



■ The trademark eye-popping graphics are back with a vengeance in WipEout 3. We like...



■ Expect the futuristic sci-fi tracks to be tons more detailed in the finished game



■ There are plenty of multiple routes this time around so you don't get bored of the same old tracks

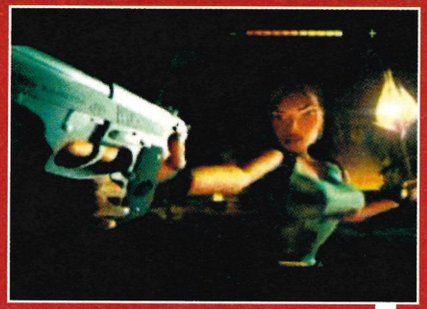


■ The new power-ups are gonna blow you away

LARA TRIPLE WHAMMY

We've the latest Lara news

■ **Jeez. It's been** one helluva month for Tomb Raider news. First Nell McAndrew packs in her job as the Lara model and is reported to be posing for a nude shoot in top-shelf men's mag, Playboy. Word then reaches us that Dutch lingerie and swimwear model, Lara Weller, is appointed as her replacement as the official Lara Croft looky-likey. Then a new computer-generated Lucozade advert featuring –yep, you guessed it – Lara Croft is screened on television, with Lara knocking back bottles of the stuff to enable her to continue slaying endangered species. Then to top it all off, Core Design revealed that it's working on a fourth game in the Tomb Raider series. No details on this surefire hit are available yet, but we'll be bringing you more over the next few months.



■ And the gon-toting babe is ready for action!



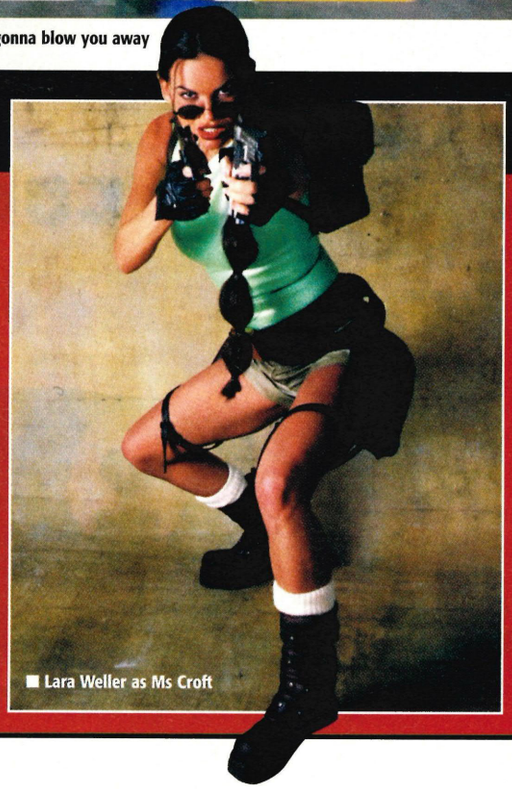
■ Here's Lara...



■ Here's the Lucozade...



■ Glug, glug, glug...



■ Lara Weller as Ms Croft

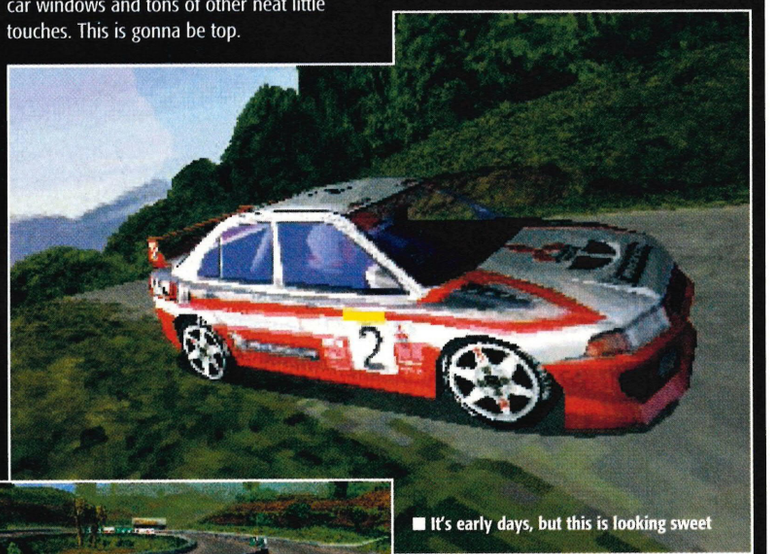
Off-road king

Rally Masters looks to kick Col McRae's ass

The PlayStation is chock full of decent rally games at the moment. But there's always room for another. This one is from the top blokes who brought you the ace futuristic racer, Motorhead, and their latest effort looks like being even better. Rally Masters boasts over 22 rally cars for you to get to grips with, 51 different courses, four championship modes and a cool split-screen two-player game. It's lip-smacking to look at too, with visible car damage, mud which sticks to the bodywork, lens flare, reflective car windows and tons of other neat little touches. This is gonna be top.



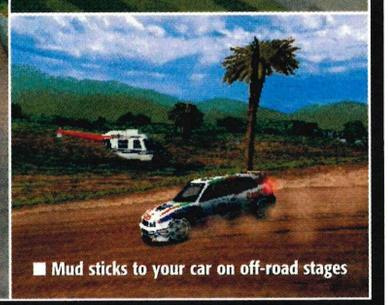
■ You can even see the diddy drivers inside



■ It's early days, but this is looking sweet

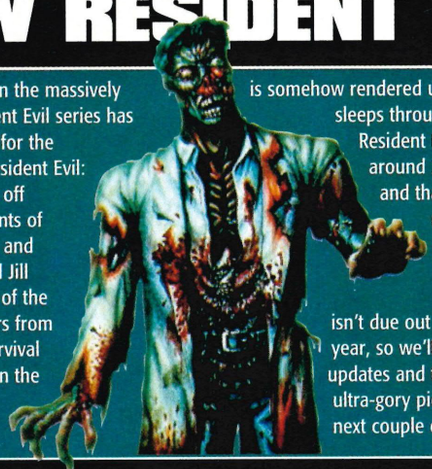


■ Smart special stages for two-player races



■ Mud sticks to your car on off-road stages

NEW RESIDENT EVIL



A new game in the massively popular Resident Evil series has been revealed for the PlayStation. Resident Evil: Nemesis starts off before the events of Resident Evil 2 and centres around Jill Valentine, one of the main characters from the original survival horror game. In the introduction sequence, Jill is somehow rendered unconscious and sleeps through the events of Resident Evil 2. She comes around 24 hours later and that's where the new game begins. That's about all we know. The game isn't due out until early next year, so we'll have plenty of updates and the very first ultra-gory pictures over the next couple of months.

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RETRO FORCE



LET'S GET SPACED

PSYGNOSIS

PlayStation

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heat
Where there's smoke

The new weekly entertainment magazine.

BLOODY GROSS!

COSH! AAARRGH! GURGLE! SPLURT!

Videogames without blood are like Batman without Robin. So here's a round-up of the 'Station's goriest splatter-fests...

PARENTAL ADVISORY

WARNING!

EXTREME CONTENTS

The images contained overleaf are likely to shock and offend. Or at least that's the intention. We've tracked down the ten most gruesome 'Station games of all time. Some of 'em are so gory they've even been banned in other European countries. And now we're gonna show you why...

»

BUCKET OF BLOOD RATINGS

This is how the bloodiest games rank in the all-important gore department...

- A few droplets
- Small puddles
- Mild spattering
- Gushes of claret
- Tidal waves

SOUL REAVER

You're gonna need a strong stomach for this one. Impaling zombies is what it's all about, and there's buckets of blood too.

BLOOD RATING

THRILL KILL

This ultra-violent beat 'em up was so gory it was eventually canned. Pirate copies on the internet go for up to £200!

BLOOD RATING

THE BLOODIEST G

SICKENING VIOLENCE. GUT-WRENCHING GORE. THESE ARE TH

NIGHTMARE CREATURES

Facing the army of darkness armed with only a Samurai sword, the severing of limbs and spilling of blood ensues.

BLOOD RATING

DOOM

A classic gore-fest in which the demonic barons of hell face a bloody demise at the hands of your chainsaw.

BLOOD RATING

RESIDENT EVIL 2

This horror sequel was recently banned in France following a massive public outcry. It's not hard to see why.

BLOOD RATING



RESIDENT EVIL

Banned in Germany and given a 15 rating over here, this over-the-top gore-fest is one of the most gruesome games ever.

BLOOD RATING

DIE HARD TRILOGY

Blood splatters up the windscreen as you mow down innocent pedestrians in the third episode of Die Hard Trilogy.

BLOOD RATING

MORTAL KOMBAT 4

Mortal Kombat 4 has so much flowing red stuff that it had to be made green for the German release. This is why...

BLOOD RATING

AMES EVER SEEN!

E BLOODIEST 'STATION GAMES YOU'RE EVER LIKELY TO SEE



QUAKE II

Bloody entrails shoot off in all directions as you gun down the enemy in Quake II. Coming to the 'Station this summer...

BLOOD RATING

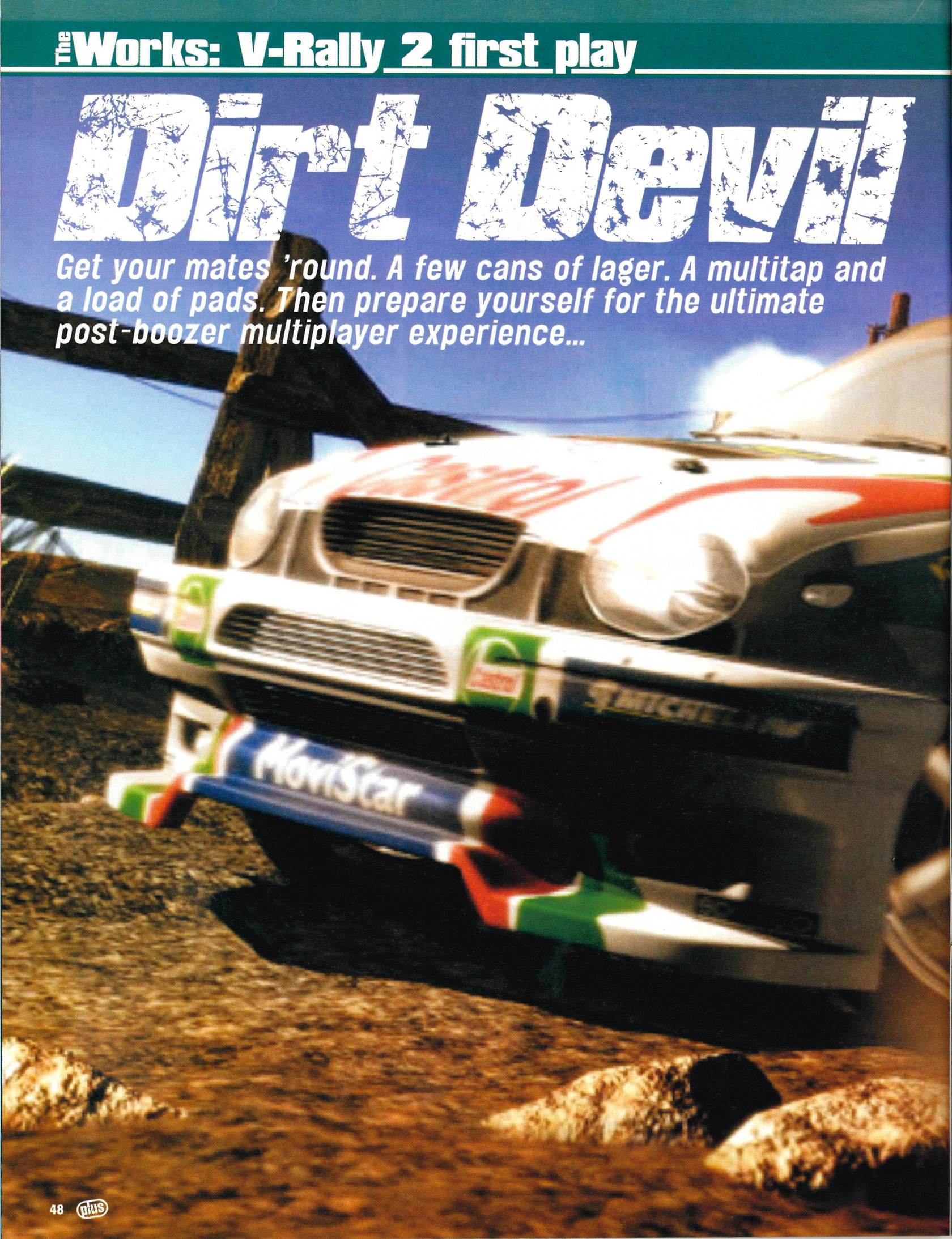
SILENT HILL

Buckets of blood. Gut-wrenching violence. Enough suspense to make you sweat like a fat lass. That's Silent Hill.

BLOOD RATING

Dirt Devil

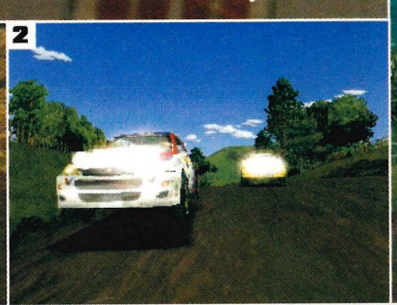
Get your mates 'round. A few cans of lager. A multitap and a load of pads. Then prepare yourself for the ultimate post-boozer multiplayer experience...



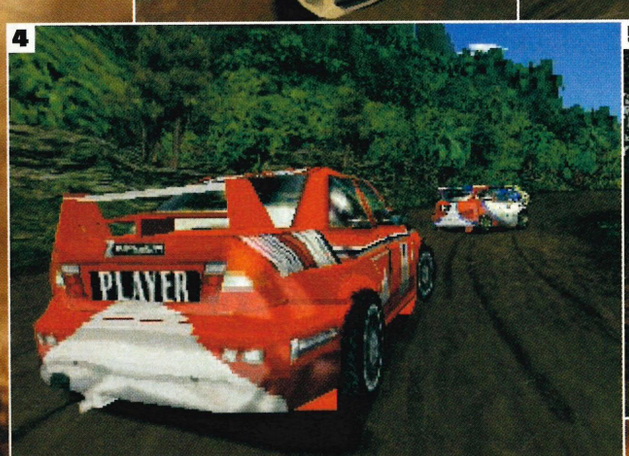
■**OUT** JULY ■**BY** INFOGRAMES ■**COSTS** £44.99 ■**PLAYERS** 1-4 ■**COMPATIBILITIES** JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD, MULTITAP, DUAL SHOCK PAD, STEERING WHEEL
■**WE LOOK AT** GRAPHICS, MULTIPLAYER, TRACK EDITING, SPEED, CO-PILOTS, TUNING

There are tons of rally games on the 'Station. And yeah, Colin McRae Rally is probably the best. But V-Rally 2 is better than we dared expect. Lush looks, eye-watering speed, peachy gameplay... And it's not even finished yet.

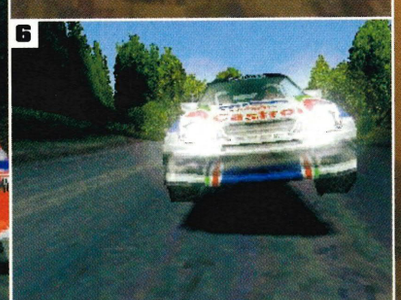












1 Replays look goyjush 2 The cars handle a lot better this time 3 The Toyota Corrola is our fave motor 4 The cool tip-of-the-bonnet view 5 That'll be England. You can tell 'cos the weather's crap 6 It's gonna be good. Bet you can't wait, eh?

The Works: V-Rally 2 first play

Mean machines

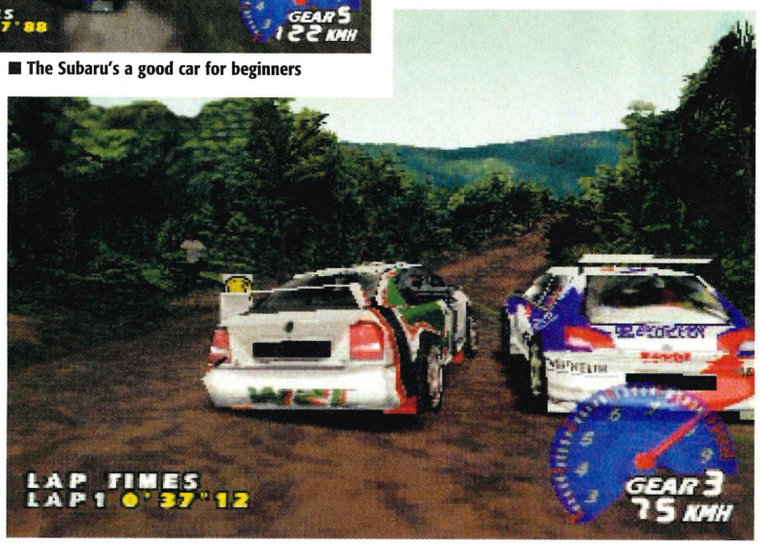
To begin with you get to choose from 18 officially licenced 1999 world rally motors: Subaru Impreza, Toyota Corolla, Peugot 306, Ford Focus, Hyundai Coupe, Seat Ibiza, Mitsubishi Lancer to name a few. Win some of the rallies and you get a load more classic rally cars from years gone by. Sounds pretty good to us.



■ The Subaru's a good car for beginners



■ The Renault Megane is more tricky to control



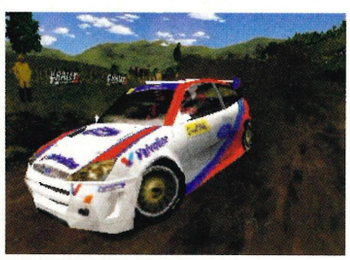
■ Fancy driving a Skoda Octavia around the world's rally tracks? Nah, us neither

Looking mighty tasty

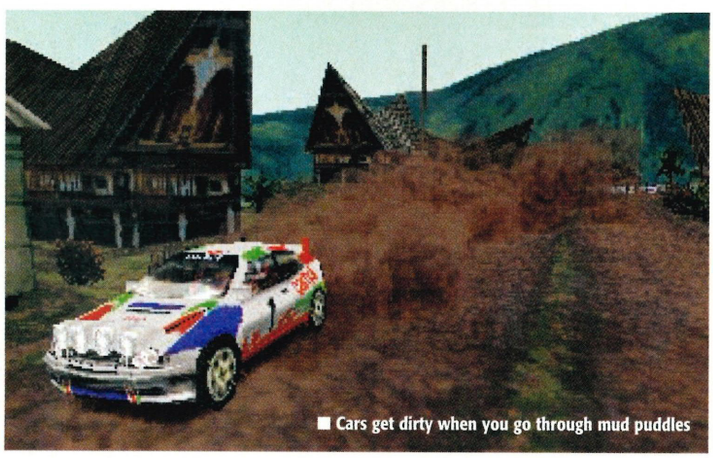
Early indications are that V-Rally 2 is gonna overtake Colin McRae on the visual side of things. The tracks are lush and full of detail, the cars move and react to the road surface totally realistically and the lighting effects look utterly fantastic. Take a look.



■ Cars get damaged when you crash 'em



■ See the way the light reflects off bodywork?

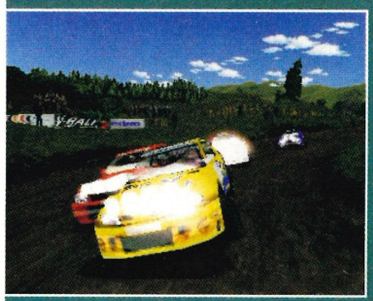


■ Cars get dirty when you go through mud puddles

Handles like a dream

The main problem with the first V-Rally game was that the handling was a load of old toss. Clip a grass verge and you'd stand bugger-all chance of keeping your car under control. Not so for the sequel.

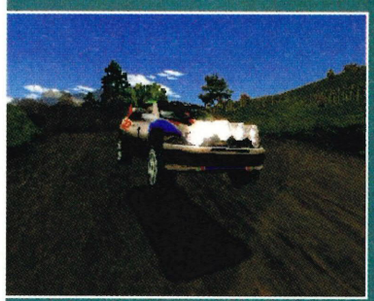
This time the handling is more forgiving, allowing you to jostle other cars and ride the verges without somersaulting out of control. Nice one.



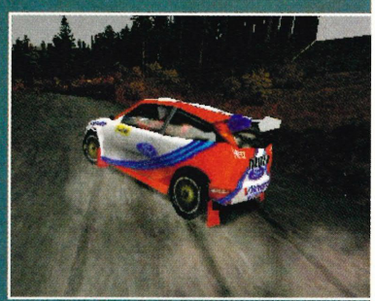
■ Use the Dual Shock Pad for precision driving



■ Powersliding's simpler for the sequel



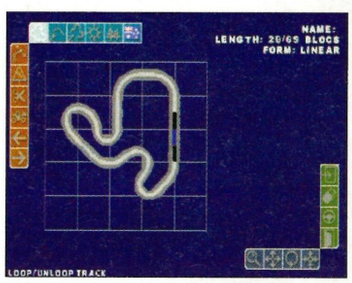
■ The physics are more realistic, too



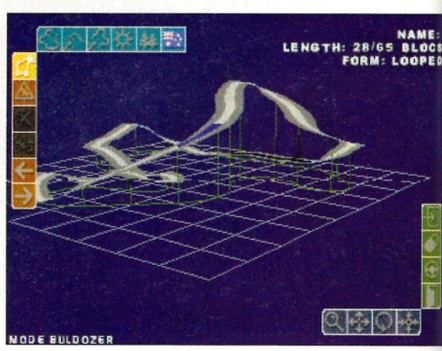
■ Handbrake turns? No problemo

Build your own tracks

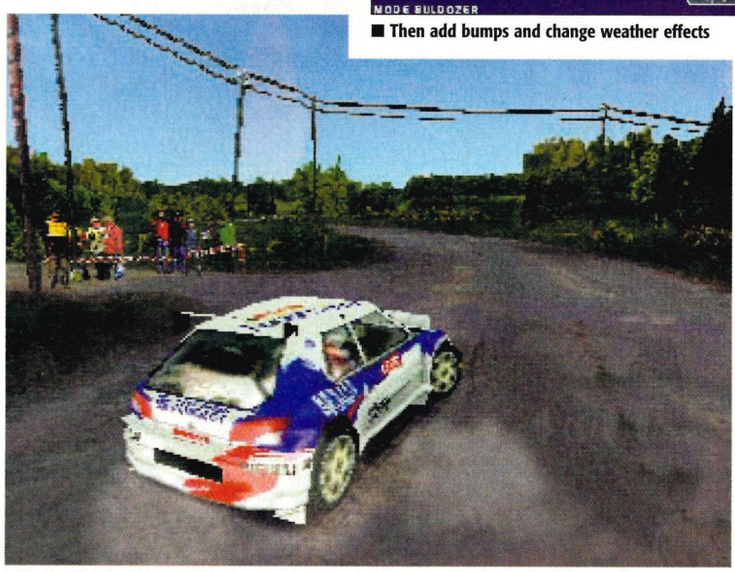
There are tons of new features in V-Rally 2, the best of 'em being the smart-as-pie track edit feature. Here you're given the chance to create new tracks of your own from scratch, then save 'em on to a memory card and exchange them with your mates. Like this:



■ Start by creating the basic shape of the circuit you fancy powering around



■ Then add bumps and change weather effects



■ And voila! Your very own unique track! Created by you. Driven by you

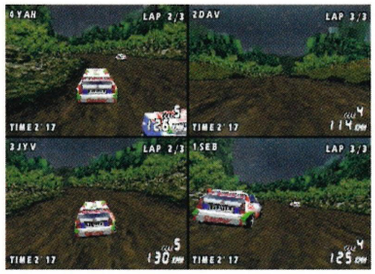
'Looks like a helluva good game'

Get your mates around

The best bit of any racing game is thrashing yer mates. We know it. You know it. And the geezers behind V-Rally 2 know it. They've busted their balls to make this a two, three or four-player split-screen game. You get all of the speed of the proper game with hardly any loss in trackside detail. Don't believe us, huh? Well take a look...



■ Two-players? All the detail. Cool



■ It's got all the speed of the proper game, too



■ You'll need some mates and a multitap for mental four-player races

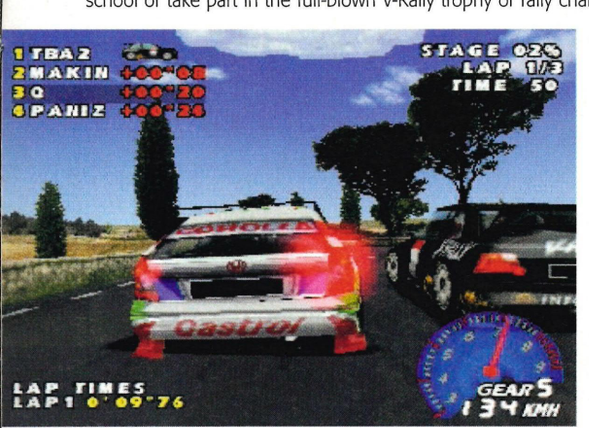
plus

We'd like to say...

We're really looking forward to this one. With all the problems of the first V-Rally sorted out – namely the crap handling and rubbish car physics – and a whole host of smart new features, this is looking like it's gonna be one helluva good game. We wait in hope...

What is there to do?

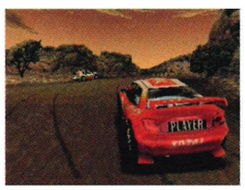
There's a whole lotta game here for you to get your teeth into. Ease your way into the action with the arcade time trial modes, fine-tune your driving skills in the rally driving school or take part in the full-blown V-Rally trophy or rally championship game.



■ Jump straight into the full-blown championship



■ Try the driving school



■ Race the clock in time trial

Tuning stuff

Before you hit the track it's a good idea to have a glance at the course map and decide on the best car set-up for maximum performance. Choose the type of tyre, gear ratio and suspension, then adjust the brake balance and steering and you're ready to roll.



■ Choose short gear ratios for tight tracks



■ Change the steering for quick turning



■ Lower the suspension for better speed, but choose the right tyres or you'll stand no chance

A helping hand

With over 92 courses in V-Rally 2, it would be impossible to remember every twist and turn. That's why you've got a co-pilot. This geezer shouts useful bits of info, like when there's a tight bend ahead. Arrows also appear on the screen to forewarn you of any hazards ahead, so there's no excuse for leaving the tarmac.



■ Listen very carefully to the co-pilot...



■ And take notice of the on-screen arrows



■ Otherwise this is likely to happen

WIN THE WORLD'S COOLEST SCOOT

3 £1,999 aprilia AREA 51S MUST BE WON FOR SUMM

Summer's up. And you want cool wheels. Now here's your chance. We've got three of the latest, funkiest scooters exclusively for PlayStation Plus readers to win. The Area 51 is Aprilia's neatest and trickest scooter. But hurry - we must give 'em away by the end of June. You're in with a chance by simply filling in the entry form below. Go fer it!



RULES FOR ENTRY

- You must be over 16 to enter.
- You can enter as often as you like but you must use original entry forms, not photocopies.
- If you win, you will be responsible for having a valid licence, insurance, vehicle duty and protective clothing.
- If you win, we may need a photograph of you to be published in PlayStation Plus.
- Winners will be chosen at random and informed by Friday 9th July.

AREA 51 SCOOT ENTRY FORM

It's blimmin' easy this competition. Answer the questions below (be honest, it won't stop you winning!) and send in the form to: That Aprilia's Mine! PlayStation Plus 37-39 Millharbour London E14 9TZ.

DO YOU OWN YOUR OWN TRANSPORT? IF SO, WHAT?

.....

HOW FAR IS YOUR ROUND TRIP FROM HOME TO WORK OR COLLEGE?

.....

DO YOU INTEND TO BUY A MOTOR CYCLE IN THE FUTURE?

.....

YOUR AGE

.....

YOUR JOB (E.G. FITTER, STUDENT)

.....

YOUR YEARLY INCOME

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NAME

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Tick this box if you don't wish to be sent more information on Aprilia products ☐



'YOU WANT AN AREA 51 NOW 'COS IT'S GOT...

- A LIQUID-COOLED TWO-STROKE 50CC MOTOR.
- OPTIONAL COMPREHENSIVE INSURANCE THAT COSTS £300 FOR ANYONE OVER 16 PLUS THREE FAMILY MEMBERS
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- ERGONOMICALLY-STYLED SADDLE, FOOTBOARDS AND HANDLEBAR POSITIONS
- A BIG DIGIT BACK LIT DASHBOARD
- AIRCRAFT-STYLE FUEL FILLER
- SLEEK MOULDED-IN HEAD AND TAIL LAMPS
- ADD-ON APRILIA ACCESSORIES SUCH AS A TOP CASE, SECURITY LOCK AND SPORT FAIRING
- LOW-STRESS TWIN CRADLE FRAME
- CYBER SILVER AND CYBER YELLOW COLOUR OPTIONS

Instant Expert

TIPS, CHEATS AND ADVICE FOR STACKS OF PLAYSTATION GAMES

Warzone 2100, G-Police, Gran Turismo and heaps of other games all sorted in one tasty and easy-to-digest section. Ain't you lucky...

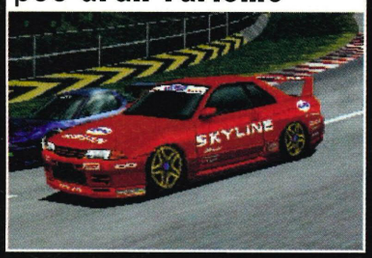
Torn apart this month...

p54 **Warzone 2100**



■ It's a full-on thinking bloke's strategy epic. So avoid thinking with our guide

p60 **Gran Turismo**



■ Now it's out on Platinum we thought it was time to let you into the game's secrets

p64 **G-Police part 2**



■ More missions mercilessly massacred in part two of our full G-Police guide

plus

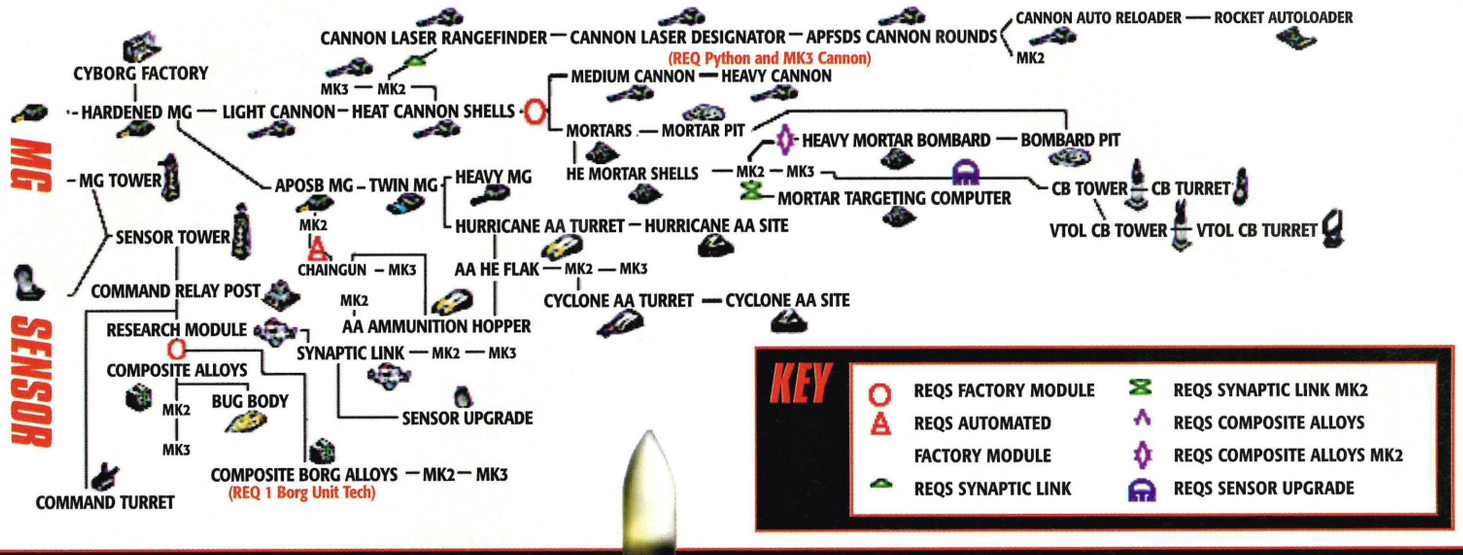
p69 **Abe's Exoddus**
p70 **Big Air**
p71 **Bloody Roar**
p72 **Final Fantasy VII**
p73 **Micro Machines**

WARZONE 2100



DETAILS	
GAME:	Warzone 2100
PRICE:	£39.99
COMPANY:	Eidos
REVIEWED:	May 99
SCORE:	87%
VERDICT:	Superb war strategy game

Warzone 2100 is one of the classiest war strategy games for the PlayStation. It's also one of the hardest. There's so much to do and see, so why not check out our guide first...

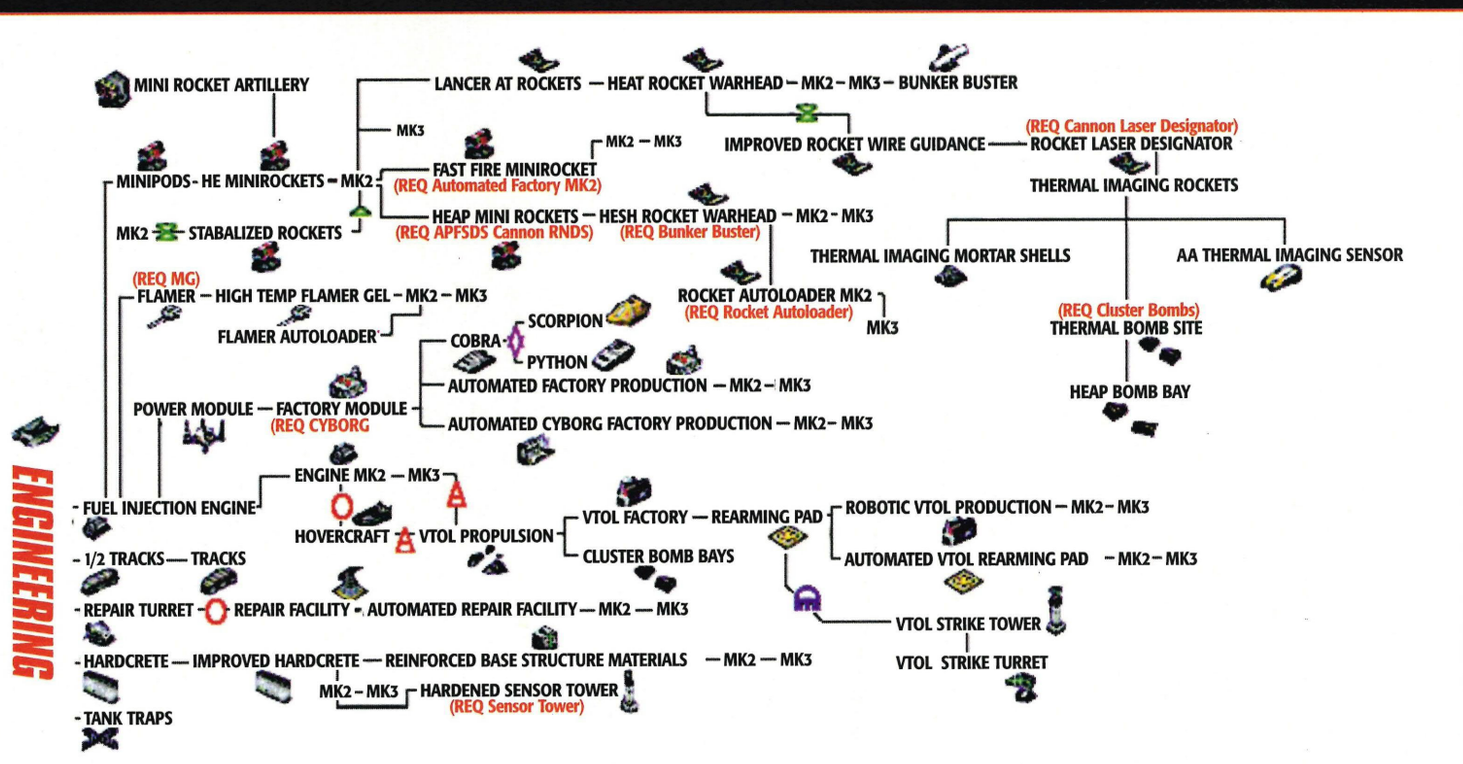




WARZONE TECH TREE

CAMPAIGNS ONE AND TWO EXPLAINED

To get ahead in Warzone 2100 take research and development seriously. There are heaps of weapons to develop, and to help we've compiled a tech tree. It shows how to get from machine-gun turrets to bunker busting rockets with everything in between...



WARZONE FOR BEGINNERS

To complete this game you've got to master the basics. Without the groundwork you'll be waving a white flag and reaching for the reset button. So on that note we've compiled an essential checklist of tips...

TRUCKS

- Use more than one truck to build structures as they'll be built a lot quicker. This point applies to most tasks you have to tackle in Warzone 2100, from blowing up enemy bases to building factories.



■ Group together your construction trucks...



■ Now get them working as one happy family

POWER GENERATORS

- Don't forget to build a power generator, one's needed for every four oil derricks.
- If you add a module to a power generator you'll almost double its efficiency.



■ No power means no war, and how dull would that be? Peace is so boring



■ When you find the power module artefact get it researched as it'll boost your power

OIL RESOURCES

- Always look around for new oil resources. As the game progresses you'll need more oil to build massive armies to help crush the evil Nexus. So always check out the nooks and crannies of the map.



■ Like most war strategy games getting your mitts on raw materials is one of the keys to winning

POWER MODULES

- Adding a power module to a light factory upgrades it to a medium factory, allowing you to build medium bodied units.
- Adding a power module to a medium factory upgrades it to a heavy factory, allowing you to manufacture heavy-bodied units.
- Adding a module to a research facility greatly improves research speed.



■ Again those power modules come in handy



■ Get that power module plugged in and watch it spew out upgraded and super hard tanks

REPAIR UNITS

- Try to assign repair units to all combat groups for mobile repairs.



■ The last thing you need is for one of your weapons to be sent back to base for repairs

DEFENCES

- Build up your base's defences. Use machine-guns to deal with cyborgs and cannons to repel tanks.



■ These towers save you having to take care of everything manually, and they're easy to make



■ The last thing you want is enemy tanks running amok in your base, cannons help prevent this

WEAPONS & TECHNOLOGIES

With so many different bits of kit on offer it's hard to know what's best. We've sorted through them all to bring you the A-list of überweapons and technologies...

WALLS

• Build walls to delay enemy attacks and protect your facilities.



■ **Quick to build and they don't take breaks**

BRIEFINGS

• Listen to the pre-mission briefings. There really is important information in them.



■ **Boring, but ignore them at your peril**

OIL DERRICKS

• Defend all oil derricks with at least one defensive structure.



■ **The last thing you need is your oil supplies being cut off**

ARTEFACTS

• Sometimes you'll recover an artefact and not know what its use or purpose is. By taking note of research updates, you'll know how best to combine new technologies and weapons. They'll also let you know whether you have to add the upgrades to existing bits of kit yourself or if they're done automatically. Either way it's worth checking regularly to see what the research boys are uncovering.

■ **If you read these you'll know how best to combine technologies**



EXPERIENCE



• One of the most important aspects of Warzone 2100 is how battle units gain experience. They all start out as Rookies and end up as Heroes. As they progress their accuracy improves and they become more difficult to destroy. For this reason it's important to keep an eye on your individual units 'health'. When they're on their last legs send them in for recycling. The new units will inherit their experience levels.

■ **If any of your weapons are on their last legs, get them recycled**

CAMPAIGN ONE: COMMANDERS

These choose targets for units under their control. As the commanders grow in experience their units increase in accuracy. To get commanders you'll need to build a command relay centre in order to research the command turret. It's well worth the effort though...



■ **These guys are vital to your success. Without them it'll be an uphill task to finish the game**



■ **They're the product of clever research. Winning the war's much easier with them**

CAMPAIGN ONE: POWER MODULES



They work by burning your oil more efficiently, and they're very versatile. They can be added to factories to produce heavier and harder weapons. If added to research facilities the time it takes to research new artefacts is greatly speeded up. Once your research facility has finished with them add to your chosen facility by getting a construction truck to build it for you.

■ **With these you'll soon be turning out the big guns ready for some kickass attitude**



■ **VTOL – They've moved on since the Harrier**

»

Instant Expert: Warzone 2100

CAMPAIGN ONE: REPAIR CENTRE

If you set your units to return on medium/high damage they will do so automatically. If you combine this with a command unit then the damaged tanks will automatically return to the repair centre, get fixed and then return to wherever the commander is on the battlefield. This is very useful for those really hectic battles, where you can't keep an eye on everything.



■ Don't let the damage get too far or you'll lose all that lovely experience



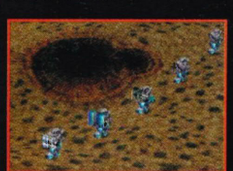
■ Use the order reticule to order units to return for repair...



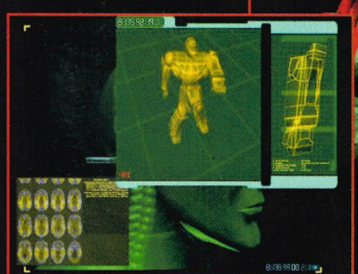
■ Before you know it they'll be purring like a contented moggy ready for battle

CAMPAIGN ONE: CYBORGS

These are obtained through synaptic link research which is found in the latter stages of campaign one. Once you have the technology they're relatively easy to produce, yet through upgrades they become very effective fighting machines with good armour and very accurate weapons. Well worth looking into, we reckon.



■ These boys go anywhere



■ The product of cutting edge technology



■ They're just very, very hard

CAMPAIN TWO: RIPPLE ROCKETS

These are very useful weapons to have. They work by automatically detecting when a non-direct fire weapon opens up against you. It then locates the enemy fire and sends rockets over to neutralize the threat. This is really helpful in the later campaigns where things can get hairy. as it leaves you free to attack or defend your chosen target without having to worry about all the other pesky enemies. And it has a very powerful kick on it.



■ It may look like an empty Cornflake packet, but believe us, it's rock hard

CAMPAIN TWO: VTOLS

These make very versatile weapons as they can be combined with a lot of other technologies to produce weapons tailormade for missions. Excellent against enemy structures.



■ Why not bomb the enemy into submission? It's the clean headline-friendly way to kill



■ This baby's been customised to bomb the enemies out of their bunkers



CAMPAIGN THREE: HELLSTORM

These have an incredible range and a high rate of fire. Assign to a commander using the assign non-direct fire weapons option. The commander can then call upon the firepower of all the non-direct fire weapons on the map within range of a target.



■ They may look like your average tank, but if you look carefully you'll see four barrels



■ In action they get the job done. They've got power and precision in abundance.

CAMPAIN THREE: PEPPERPOT MORTARS

A highly modified version of a mortar unit with a much higher rate of fire.Ideal for defending bases.



■ They're not called Pepperpot mortars for nothing. Think scorched earth, think surrender



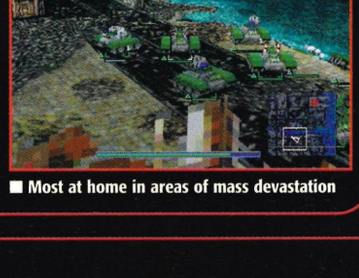
■ In action they can lay down a carpet of bombs. Afterwards it's a case of sweeping up

CAMPAIN THREE: ARCHANGEL BATTERIES

The Archangel weapon is a very powerful version of the ripple rockets, except they fire further, harder and with more accuracy. They pack one helluva punch. A must-have for all generals.



■ The Rolls Royce of rocket launchers



■ Most at home in areas of mass devastation

IF ALL ELSE FAILS. CHEAT

These cheats are activated via a standard controller in port two. First off hold down ST on controller two until the memory card check screen appears. During the main title menu, or while in game and paused enter the following code: L1 R1 R2 L1 SEL ST. This cheat adds campaign two and three to the main menu options and enables the following codes via controller two:



■ Ah, the sweet smell of success. War truly can be an uplifting experience...if you win

SEL ..... PRESS DURING THE GAME TO SKIP TO THE NEXT MISSION
△ ..... GOD MODE, MAKING EVERYTHING VISIBLE
○ ..... INFINITE POWER
✕ ..... ALL ITEMS AVAILABLE
R1 ..... ADD STRUCTURES
R2 ..... ADD FEATURES
ST + □ ..... INCREASES PLAYER NUMBERS
↑ ..... SUPER STRENGTH DROIDS
→ ..... WIMPY STRENGTH DROIDS
↓ ..... FINISHES ANY CURRENTLY ACTIVE RESEARCH
← ..... TOGGLE ON SCREEN INFO

competition

call & win win games!



tombraider 3
call 0906 960 1601

zelda
call 0906 960 1602

duke nukem
call 0906 960 1603

tekken 3
call 0906 960 1604

mission impossible
call 0906 960 1605

gex: deep cover gecko
call 0906 960 1606

1080° snowboarding
call 0906 960 1607

metal gear solid
call 0906 960 1608

street skier
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bloody roar 2
call 0906 960 1610

wipeout 64
call 0906 960 1611

monaco grand prix
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call 0906 960 1613

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crash bandicoot warped
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win prizes!



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PSX 002 and white PSX worth £300
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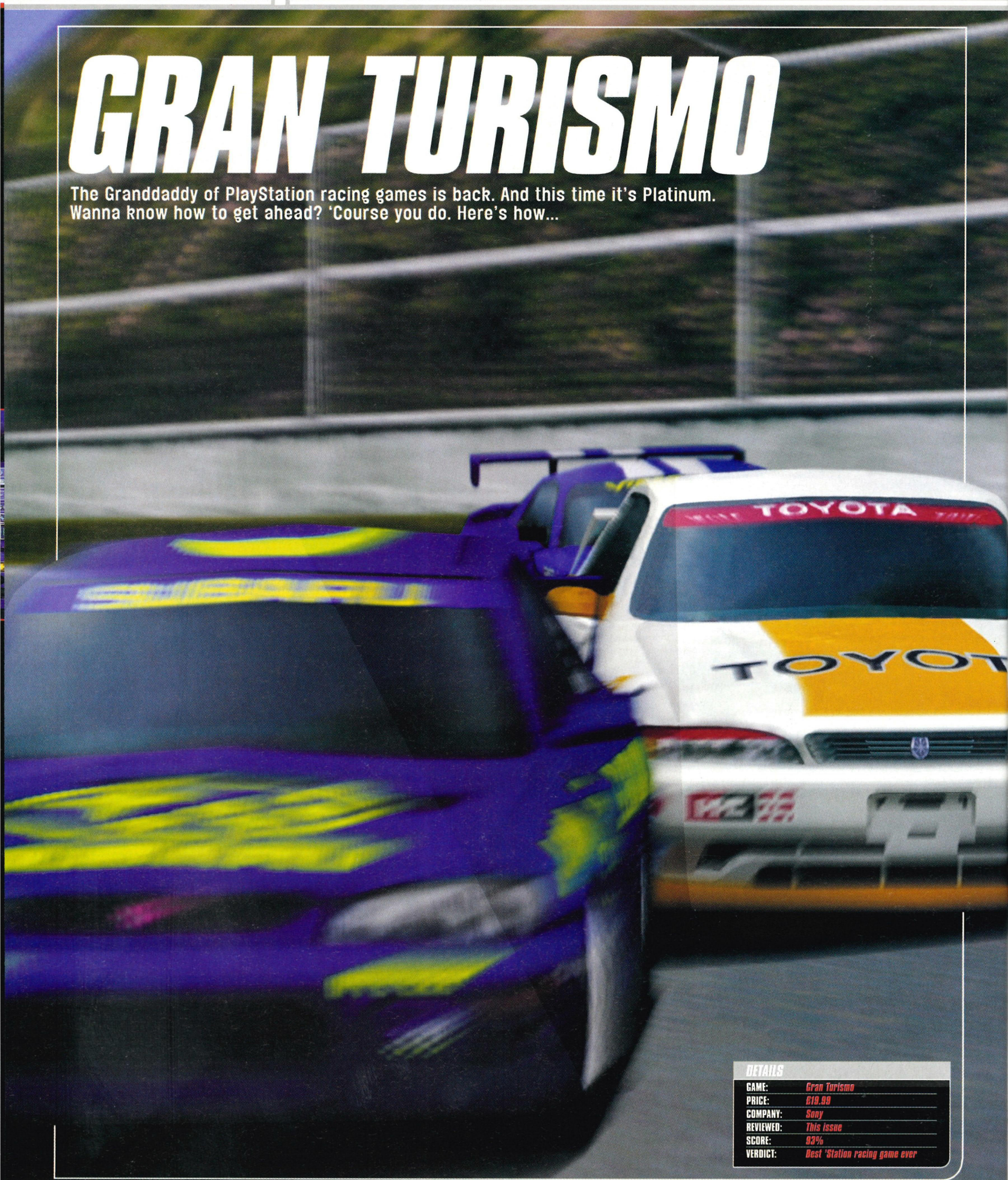
Midi Hi Fi
call 0906 960 0894

Calls charged at £1.00 per min - Maximum cost of call £3. Ask permission from the person responsible for paying the phone bill. Competition closes 31st July 99 After which time they may be replaced by a similar service on the numbers. Winners will be picked randomly from correct entrants. For rules or winners names send SAE to ILN Services, PO Box, 107 Knustford Cheshire, WA16 6EG

Velocity can be found in Extreme G2 - Available on PC and N64 and appears courtesy of Acclaim Entertainment Ltd

GRAN TURISMO

The Granddaddy of PlayStation racing games is back. And this time it's Platinum. Wanna know how to get ahead? 'Course you do. Here's how...



DETAILS	
GAME:	Gran Turismo
PRICE:	£19.99
COMPANY:	Sony
REVIEWED:	This issue
SCORE:	93%
VERDICT:	Best 'Station racing game ever

HOW TO GET AHEAD

Beating the tricky licences, fast getaways and hidden bonus items – we show you how to do it all

LICENCES SORTED

Having problems getting through the rock-hard licence tests? What you wanna do is go to the replay theatre in the main option screen and select the demonstration movies. They will show you how to do the licence tests properly. Watch and learn.



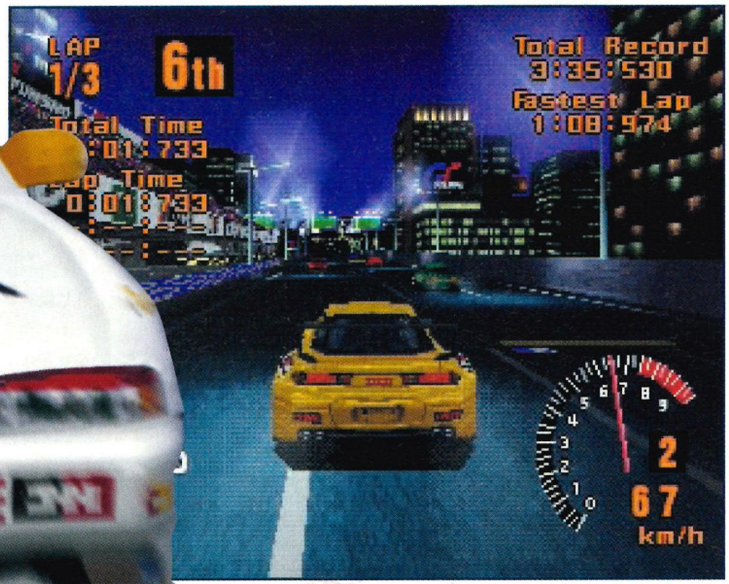
■ Cut in as close as possible to the tyres



■ Ride the curbs to save valuable seconds

FAST GETAWAY

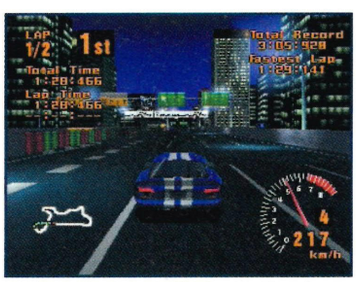
A sure-fire way to beat the rest of the field off the line is to rev your engine during the countdown. Be sure to let the revs go from their lowest point to their highest and back down again as many times as possible before the lights go out. This should get you away from the start quicker than the other drivers.



■ Constant revving of the engine until the start lights go out should get you off the start line a lot quicker than the rest of the field

BONUS ITEMS

In arcade mode, beat every single track with each type of car (A, B and C) under all three modes of difficulty and you get four secret courses, the end movie and – best of all – Gran Turismo hi-fi mode. This is tons smoother than the normal game but the tracks aren't quite as detailed. Take a look...



■ This is what it looks like in normal mode



■ Less detail in hi-fi mode, but it's far smoother

EARN FAST CARS FAST!

You want to get the top car in a hurry? No problem. You're just three simple steps away

STAGE 1

Out of the box you're best off tackling the B-licence, then buy a cheap and reliable used car. Something along the lines of the Honda Prelude or Toyota Sprinter Truneo should do the trick. With one of these babies you should be able to clean up in the Sunday Cup and rack up a hefty wad of cash.



■ The Sunday Cup in the Honda's our top tip for lots of easy winnings

STAGE 2

Next flog your original car and the Demio you've won. Then go to the second-hand car dealership and get yourself sorted with a Nissan GT-R. With any spare cash you might have left over, carry out a few modifications to give your motor a bit more speed. An ROM muffler would be a good start.



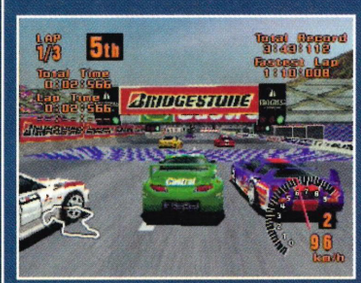
■ Once you've got the smart Nissan GT-R...



■ Stick a few mods on to get better speed

STAGE 3

Next try your hand at the 4WD event race. Win it and sell the prize car, then further modify your Nissan GT-R. Have a bash at the A-licence and enter the Japan Vs US event race. If you manage to win this, the smart Mitsubishi FTO Limited Edition is all yours!



■ The Mitsubishi FTO is THE car to have



■ You should have no problem cleaning up in the other events with one of these beauties

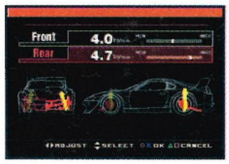
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TUNING YOUR CAR

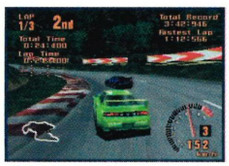
The key to Gran Turismo is knowing how to tune your car. Here are a few pointers in the right direction

SPRINGS

The springs keep the wheels in contact with the road. Softening them will give you more traction but less straight line speed. A good tip is to keep the front end stiffer than the rear for good cornering.



■ Tamper with the springs...



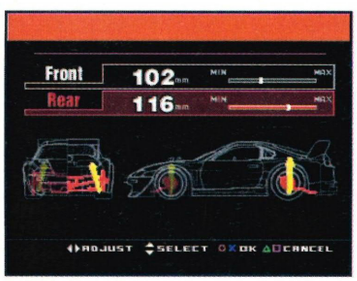
■ To get better wheel traction



■ A well-balanced car is essential for good cornering

RIDE HEIGHT

The ride height is the distance of the chassis from the ground. Generally speaking, the car should be lower where the power is. So a rear-wheel drive car should be lower at the back, a front-wheel drive car should be lower at the front. A four-wheel drive car should be fairly neutral.



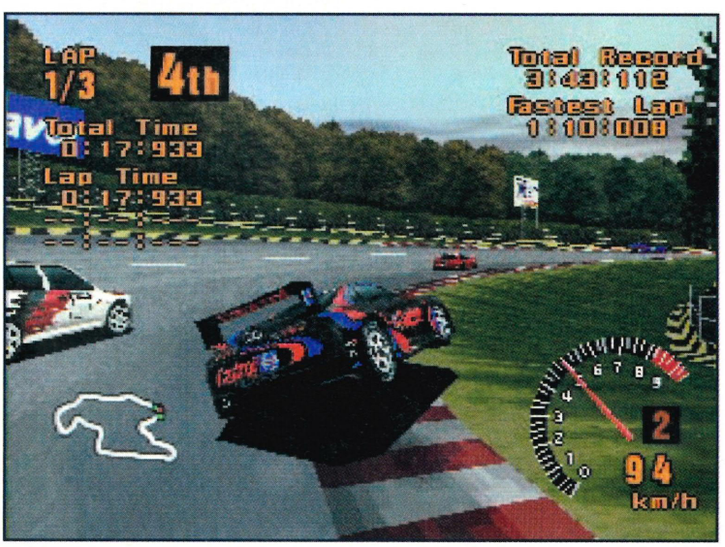
■ Adjust the ride height to your style of driving



■ Keep the car low where the power is

DAMPERS

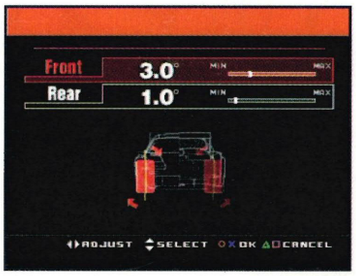
Dampers are the car's shock absorbers and affect the handling in the same way as the springs. A good tip is to soften the rear of the car and stiffen the front slightly, allowing for good traction and cornering. If the car is unstable in any way, the dampers are probably where you're going wrong.



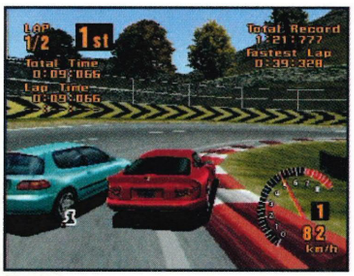
■ If the settings of your dampers are wrong, the car handling will be all over the place

CAMBER

Camber is the wheel's angle in relation to the tarmac. A slight camber on the front tyres will help cornering, except on a front-wheel drive car where the camber should be on the rear to prevent loss of traction.



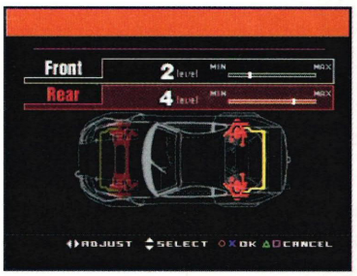
■ Try experimenting with different set-ups



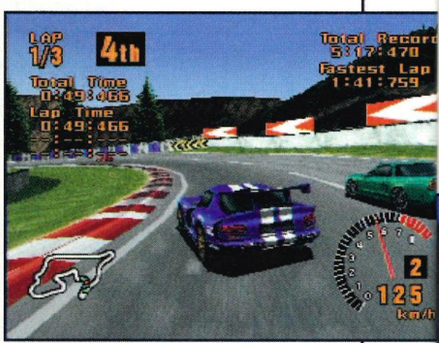
■ A slight camber at the front helps cornering

STABILISER

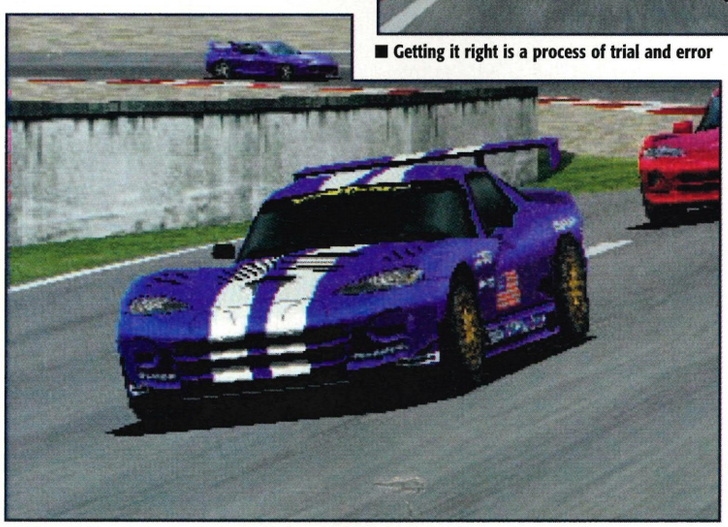
The stabiliser is designed to stop the car 'rolling' as the weight shifts under braking and acceleration. Generally speaking, the rear should be fairly stiff, whereas the front is down to personal preference.



■ Make sure you keep the rear fairly stiff



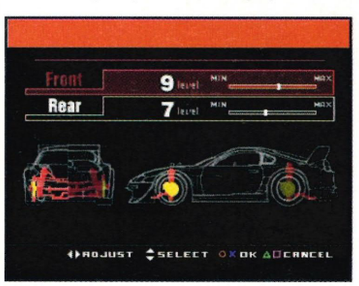
■ Getting it right is a process of trial and error



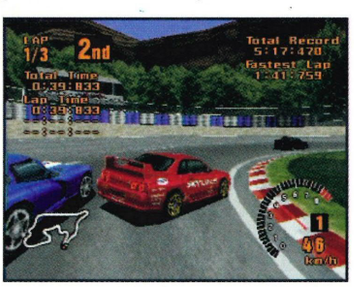
■ The stabiliser helps to the keep the car, er, stable under braking and acceleration

BRAKES

Changing the amount of brake power distributed to the front and rear wheels affects how the car handles under braking. We prefer to have slightly more braking power to the front wheels to prevent oversteer.



■ Give yourself more front braking power...



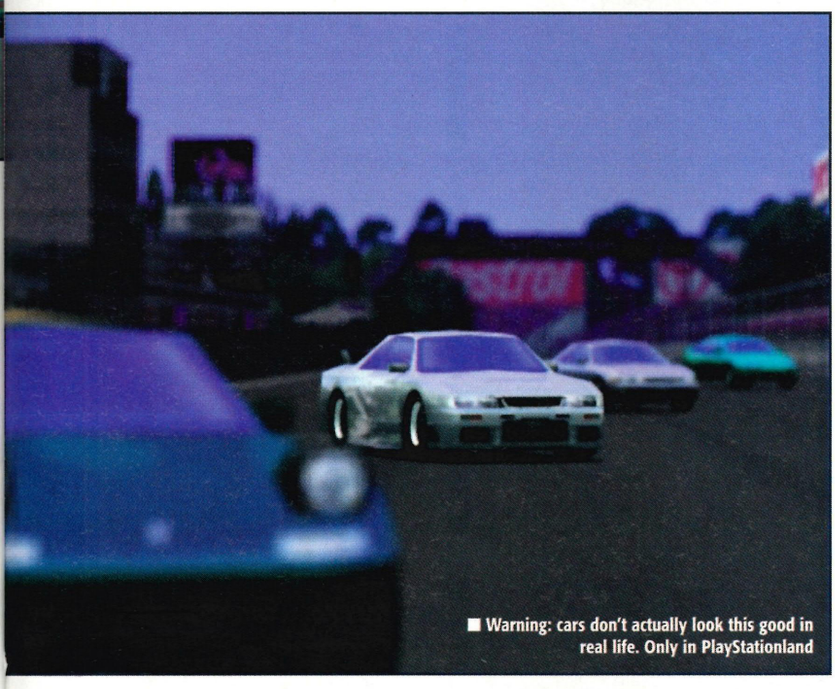
■ For tight cornering. Makes all the difference

GEAR RATIO

Adjusting the gear ratio will alter the acceleration and top speed of your car. As a general rule, short gear ratios are good for tight, twisty circuits, giving you fast acceleration out of the corners. For circuits with many long straights and few tricky corners, a longer gear ratio will give you a better top speed. See?



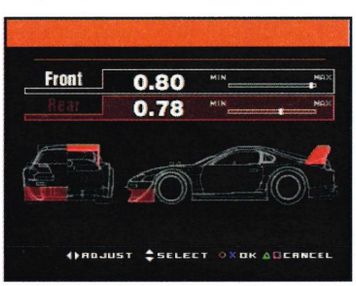
■ A short gear ratio gives you good acceleration. A long gear ration gives you a better top speed



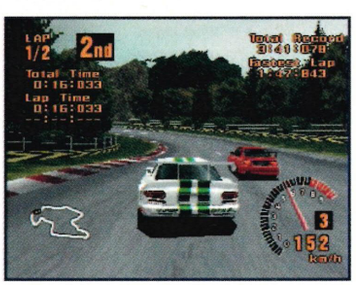
■ Warning: cars don't actually look this good in real life. Only in PlayStationland

DOWNFORCE

Downforce is the generated force pressing the car down on the track. A lot of downforce increases cornering speed, but you lose straight line speed. Little downforce makes the car unstable in the corners, but lightning quick on the straights. Choose the best set-up for each circuit.



■ Fiddle around with the front and rear spoilers



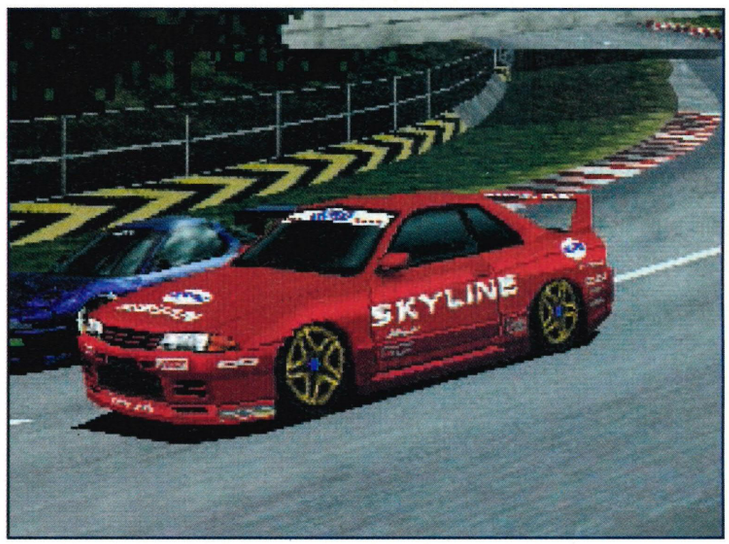
■ Maximum downforce for tight 'n' twisty tracks

TOP CARS

Forget about all the rest. If you want the best, then get yourself one of these mean machines...

NISSAN R32/R33 SKYLINE GT-R

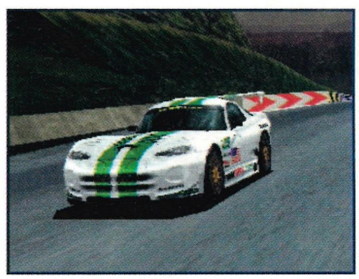
This goyjush-looking motah is an amazing performer and the most powerful car in the game. Fully tuned up it can produce over 900 horsepower and speeds exceeding 260 kilometres per hour. It's by far the best choice for all the cup races, the 4WD Event, the FR Race, Tuned Events and the Stage 11 Tuned.



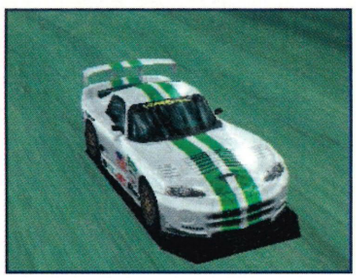
■ The Nissan Skyline isn't a top-looking motor, but it's what's under the hood that matters

CHRYSLER DODGE VIPER GTS-R

This lightweight monster is yours when you win the tough US vs Japan race in an American car. It's just as powerful as the Viper RT/20 and a few pounds lighter, giving it slightly better acceleration. Beginners may find the combination of rear wheel drive and massive power too much to keep under control, though.



■ The Dodge Viper is mega-powerful



■ But it's well tricky to keep under control

MITSUBISHI FTO

Win the Japan vs US event in a Japanese motah and you can drive the smart Mitsubishi FTO home with you. It's the best all-rounder in the game and perfect for some of the tougher events.



■ Looks pretty cool, huh?



■ This is our fave motor

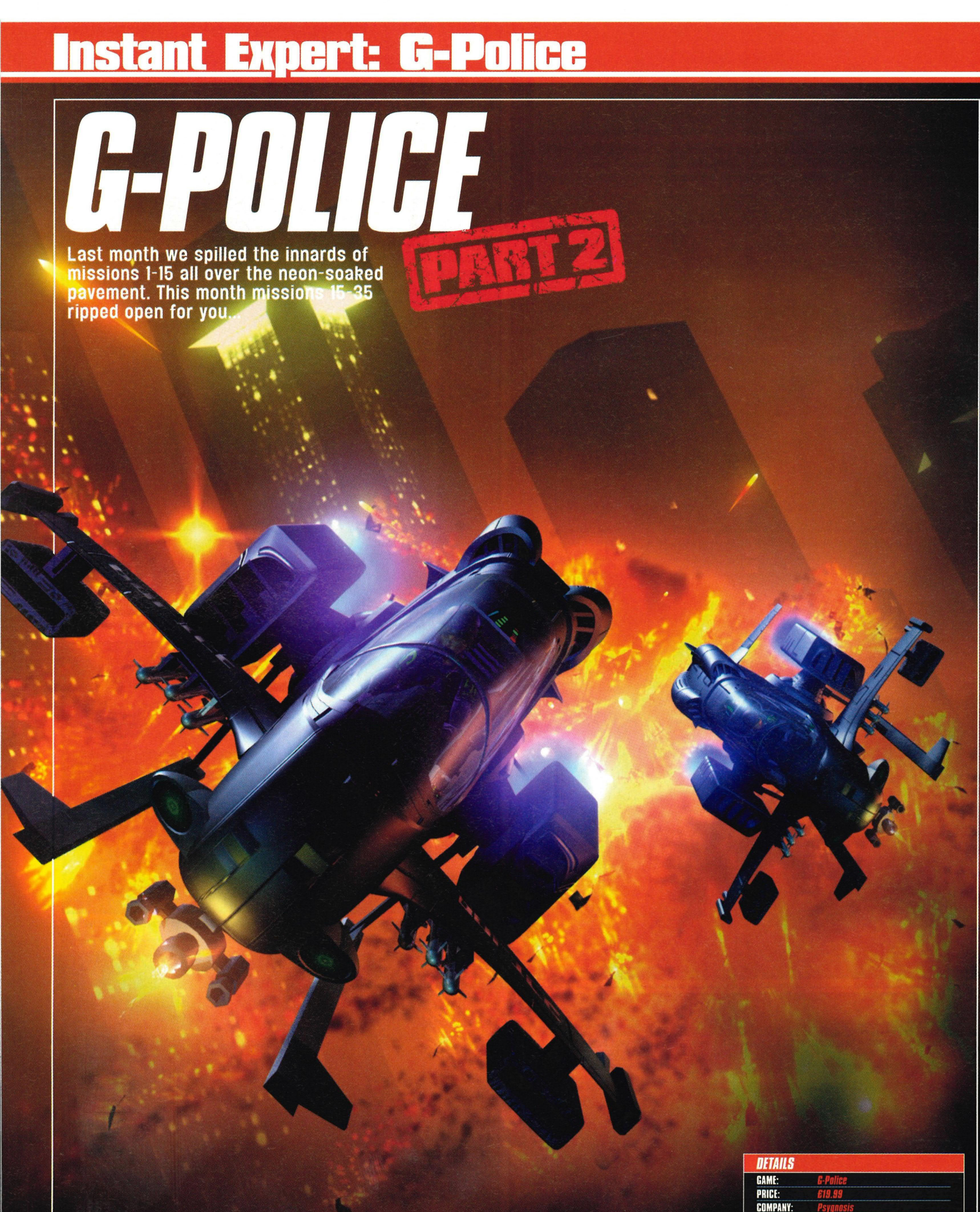


■ The Mitsubishi is well fast and handles like a dream

G-POLICE

PART 2

Last month we spilled the innards of missions 1-15 all over the neon-soaked pavement. This month missions 15-35 ripped open for you...



DETAILS

GAME:	G-Police
PRICE:	€19.99
COMPANY:	Psygnosis
REVIEWED:	Last issue
SCORE:	84%
VERDICT:	Top airborne blaster

MISSIONS 16-35 CARVED UP

Last month, we cut through missions 1-15 like a hot knife through butter. This month, missions 16-35 die by our hands.Hot damn, we're so tireless.

MISSION 16: PROTECT THE RESIDENTS AND BARRACKS

- Use the Wingman against the Titan gunboat
- Kill the fighters BEFORE you get told to defend the barracks, or you're dead
- When you're heading over to the barracks, avoid all the fighters
- Immediately paste the two gunboats at the barracks with your toughest missiles
- You'll have to zip between the Residents and the Barracks taking out bombers
- This mission is tough. Keep rearming from the GPHQ, or you're toast



■ This is a bitch of a mission. Really



■ You have to protect two sets of blokes



■ And the opposition you come up against is pretty fierce. Keep 'em peeled for gunboats

MISSION 17: PROTECT THE UPLINK TOWERS

- At Bavorr uplink, hit the siege guns first, then the bombers
- When told to defend the Dia uplink, finish the Bavorr attackers lickety-spit
- At Dia, take out the ships with the lasers and rockets first
- At Kari dome, be careful to chuck the bomb well away from the tower
- To get the secondary objective, croak the fighters you pass in Fulla dome



■ Protect towers. Defuse bombs. Kill many men



■ Take out the siege guns early in the day

MISSION 18: PROTECT THE PATROL

- Give the stranded patrol the guns before taking on the Nanosoft boys
- A heavy air transport will show up: time to head back to GPHQ
- At the secret base, take out the ground defences first
- Keep picking away at the remaining defences, and the GP bombers will show up...



■ Run guns to stranded G-cops. Give them the guns early on so they can join the fight that follows

MISSION 19: RECAPTURE THE POWER STATION

- Save the ground team, then deploy them against the turrets
- Help out by picking off the turrets from a distance
- Keep yourself between the ground team and the baddies. Soak up the fire
- It helps to take out the Nanosoft fighters before going in for the kill



■ Blow an entire power station to bits



■ Kill everybody in or near the power station



■ At the end of the mission, make sure to take down the Nanosoft fighters first

»

Instant Expert: G-Police

MISSION 20: DESTROY RETREATING UNITS

- Take out the Titan gunboat on the bridge before nailing the turrets
- Help the bombers to destroy Oski bridges to prevent ground units escaping
- And don't spare the lash.The gunboat's ridiculously hard: give it all you've got
- In Pekko dome, wait till the Nanosoft convoy's on the bridge, then blow it



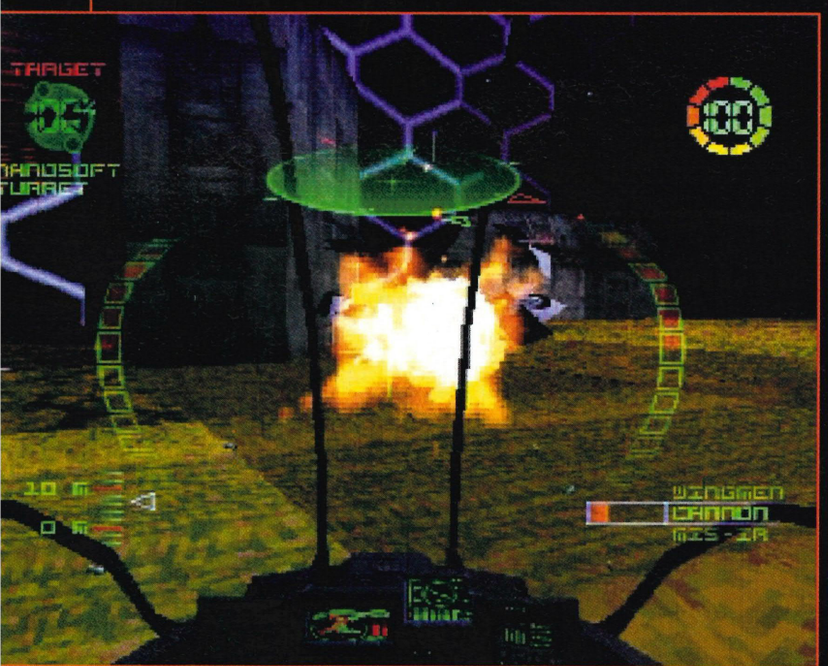
■ Nanosoft scum break and run...



■ Mow them down like the dogs they are

MISSION 21: ESCORT COMMAND POST

- Just after you attack the first power node, the ground team get attacked
- Kill the Nanosoft craft double-quick, or it's mission failure
- Make sure Sarraka dome is totally clear before dropping the beacon



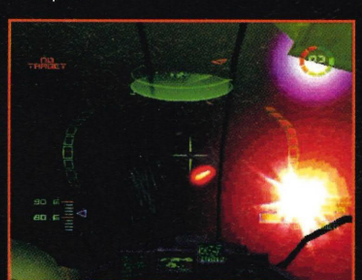
■ Escort a command truck. Kill everything you see. Everything, y'hear?

MISSION 22: AIR PATROL

- You've got to clear out Grimr dome and Mera dome twice
- If you're quick you can get away with sweeping Danr dome once
- If you leave a dome without wiping out ALL the Nanosoft lads, it doesn't count
- Later, keep yourself between the attackers and the command post in Sarraka dome
- Kill the freighter convoy to get secondary objective brownie points



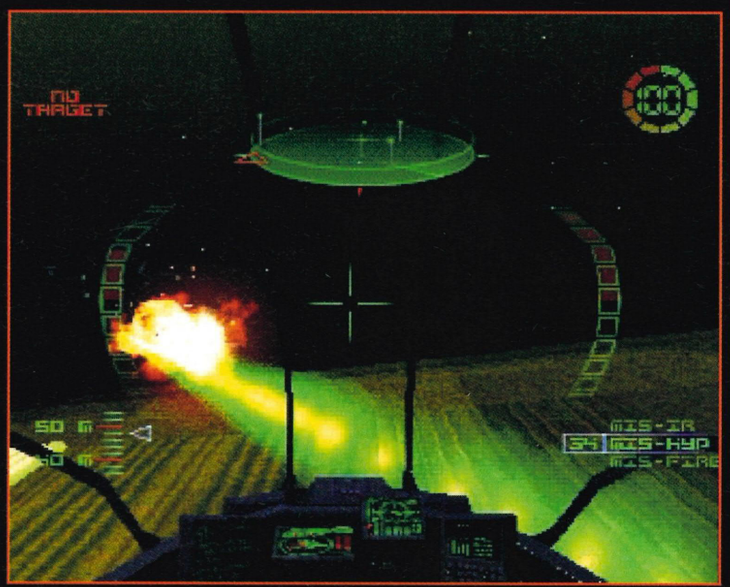
■ Another day on the beat. Your task today? wipe out a load of bad guys



■ And at the end of another busy day, another bunch of dead gangsters

MISSION 23: GPHQ RECAPTURE

- Head to Mera dome first to take down the Nanosoft fighters
- At HQ, waste the ground tank VERY quickly: otherwise the ground team are toast
- If possible, croak most of the Nanosoft fighters before the GP air transport lifts off
- Once the GP transport has touched down on the landing pads, the GPHQ is yours



■ An almighty bust-up as the G-cops reclaim their headquarters

MISSION 24: DESTROY COMMUNICATION LINKS

- Kill the forces guarding the black towers for the secondary objective
- The tower in Nuada dome takes some killing. Keep circling. Ignore all distractions
- And once you've killed it, just run. No need to kill the last few Nanosoft lads
- There is one comm link in each of Jumo, Gipal, Igaluk and Vali domes



■ Kill lots of little power nodes



■ Hyper-velocity missiles toast 'em good



■ With plenty of resistance from Nanosoft, it's vital to blow the comm links quick

MISSION 25: ATTACK ON NANOSOFT COMPOUND

- The main thing is to get the ground team safely into the compound
- Wait till the base's defences are just about busted before dropping the beacon
- Concentrate on protecting the ground team: ignore your bombers
- Kill the siege gun before it takes out the bridge going into Nanosoft HQ
- As soon as you've killed the Nanosoft lads inside the compound, go and rearm
- Take out the gunship from a safe distance. It's tough as nails



■ Go to the house where Nanosoft live



■ And hit it with everything you've got



■ This mission is an absolute bitch to complete. We warn you...

MISSION 26: ESTABLISH FORWARD BASE

- Destroy the Power Node outside Frodi dome
- As soon as you get in, you're face to face with a mobile base. Keep your distance
- Once you've killed it, keep hovering above the command team
- Once they're in position, listen out for HQ telling you where Nanosoft ships are coming from



■ Set down a base camp deep in enemy territory. Kill all the people who come to spoil the party

MISSION 27: DEFENSIVE PATROL

- Follow waypoints: stay in tight formation so's you've got backup
- As soon as you see any Nanosoft vermin, break and kill
- Make sure to take down the big fish first: laser ships need to die double-quick



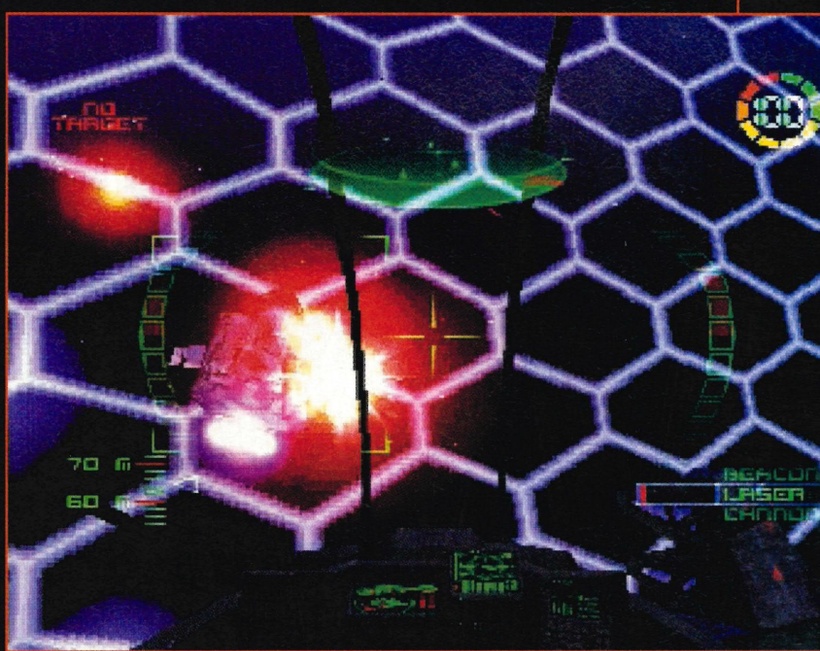
■ This 'un's a piece of cake. Have a breather



■ It's mostly just small fry on this mission.

MISSION 28: DESTROY MAIN POWER STATION

- Beware. A gunboat turns up at the power station. It's tough
- Best idea is to wait till the last possible moment until you deploy the ground team
- Once the power station is weakened enough, an air transport will drop a HUGE bomb on it
- Clear up any remaining resistance before taking out the weakened buildings



■ Kill everybody in the power station, then wait for your mates to come and paste the building with the really heavy ordnance...

MISSION 29: RECONNAISSANCE

- Don't get too close to any of the people you scan
- Watch out. There are gunboats about
- Stay low to avoid detection by Nanosoft radar
- Best way to do this mission is to take it very slowly



■ Scout loads of suspicious-looking craft using your scanner. Stay frosty



■ 'Cos some of those little container lorries are Not What They Seem

»

Instant Expert: G-Police

MISSION 30: FINAL ATTACK

- Rendezvous with your homies at the entrance to Valhalla. Head on in
- Rearm with a fuel-air bomb. Dump it on the main building
- Don't rush into fights. Wait till the rest of the lads are with you
- Use the ground team carefully. They can't take too much punishment



■ You get a new ship!



■ It's loads faster and feistier



■ So it'd just be rude not to go on a nutso killing spree

MISSION 31: BACK ON THE STREETS

- In the big shootout, don't waste time trying to figure who's bad. Just kill
- As soon as you've scanned the transport vessel, start following it
- While you're wasting the three fighters, you'll be told to kill the transport vessel
- Make sure to do it quick: it'll make a break for it – if it escapes, it's game over



■ Another 'on the beat' type affair. But this one is no picnic. Mark our words

MISSION 32: NANOSOFT'S RETURN

- At the warehouse, scan boxes to prevent a siege gun surprise for the ground team
- Two Nanosoft fighters and a bomber will enter. Kill the bomber first
- Ground units start to make their way to the warehouse. Destroy them
- The ground units don't show on the waypoint indicator. Use your map
- Be careful about leaving the ground team. There's lots of 'surprises' around
- As soon as the ground units have been iced a security droid jumps out on you



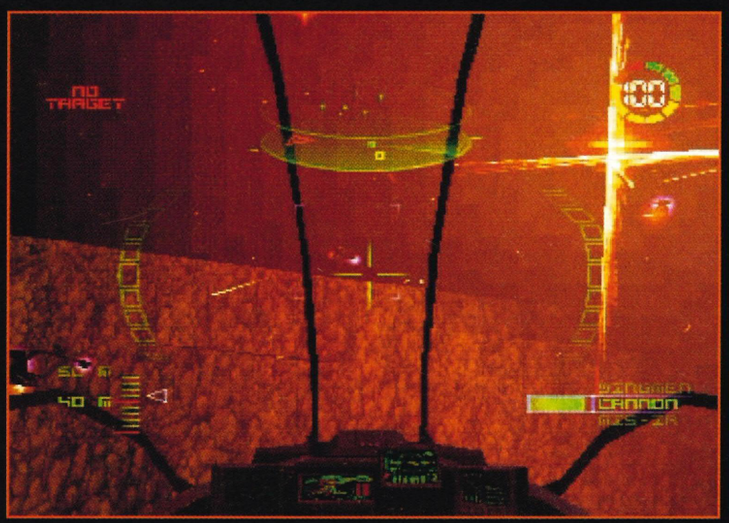
■ They're back! And they're much tougher!



■ This one really will test your mettle

MISSION 33: EXPLORE THE ABANDONED MINES

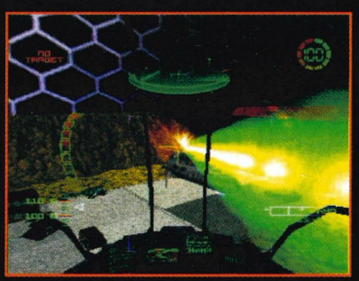
- Avoid the radar turrets on the way to the waypoint. Like, REALLY avoid
- At the Nanosoft weapons factory, take out the early warning units first
- Do anything to avoid hitting the ammunition crates with your guns. Obvious, but...
- When you get to the blocked tunnel, be ready. There's a posse of Nanosoft fighters nearby



■ Another Nanosoft hideout. Another payload of weapons

MISSION 34: OPEN THE TUNNEL

- A very large Nanosoft force attacks your ground teams. Defend!
- Now the Nanosoft boys try to blow the bridge with your boys on it. Kill them first
- While you're at it, make sure the tunnel entrance is clear of turrets
- In the dome, make sure to attack forces that are a direct threat to the ground team
- The Venom that attacks you is über-tough. Give it everything you've got



■ Remember the blocked tunnel?



■ Go and unblock it, bad bwoy

MISSION 35: FINAL MISSION

- Before you enter the ship, you've got to pick up a drop bomb
- Once inside the ship, you can't leave. Either it or you has to die
- No waypoints in here. Use the map to hunt down individual power nodes
- With the nodes gone, head for the centre core. It's extremely well protected. Beware
- Think Star Wars. The drop bomb must go right in the middle of the centre core
- Get it right, and head home. Get it wrong, and you're blown to shit



■ Star Wars-type fight against a huge reactor core



■ No waypoints to help you



■ Use the Force, Luke

Q&A

We've got stacks of hints, tips and cheats. If you've got a problem, we'll have the solution. For your queries answered use the FREE envelope on p74

Oddworld: Abe's Exoddus

Pint of Soul Storm and a packet of crisps

Hi, got any cheats for Abe's Exoddus, cos I'm crap?
John X

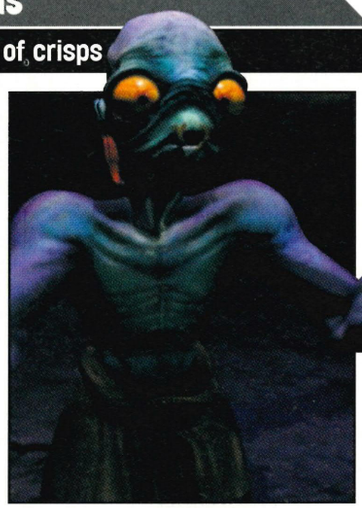
We're always happy to extend the hand of friendship to game Joeys everywhere. For too long now Joeys have been oppressed and ridiculed. We say NO MORE.

TO ACTIVATE THESE CHEATS HOLD R1 AT THE MAIN MENU SCREEN, THEN ENTER THE FOLLOWING:

LEVEL SELECT
↓ ↑ ← → △ ■ ● △ ■ ● ↓ ↑ ← →

VIEW MOVIE SCENES
↑ ↓ ← → ■ ● △ ● ■ ● ↑ ↓ ← →

INVINCIBILITY
WHILE PLAYING HOLD R1 THEN PRESS:
● △ ■ ✕ ↓ ↓ ↓ ● △ ■ ✕



■ Not the best-looking bloke in the world, but at least when he's feeling sick nobody notices

S.C.A.R.S

THE FOLLOWING CODES ARE ENTERED AT THE PASSWORD SCREEN:

PANTHER CAR
MYSTER
SCORPION CAR
DESERT
COBRA CAR
RATTLE
ALL CARS AND CUPS
ALLVID
CRYSTAL CUP
GLASSX
DIAMOND CUP
ROCKYY
ZENITH CUP
ZDPEAK



■ Check it out, all the cars, and entrance to all the cups. PlayStation gets you into all the right places

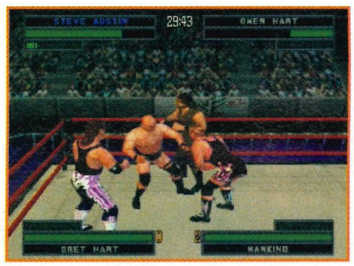
WWF Warzone

Give me ladies

How do you create female custom wrestlers on WWF Warzone?
John Bradford

It's amazing where people will look for a cheap thrill. Still if Mr Bradford wants a boner while he plays WWF Warzone...

FEMALE WRESTLER
TO CREATE A FEMALE WRESTLER, COMPLETE CHALLENGE MODE WITH TRIPLE H OR SHAWN MICHAELS.



■ Sometimes fat Yank men aren't enough

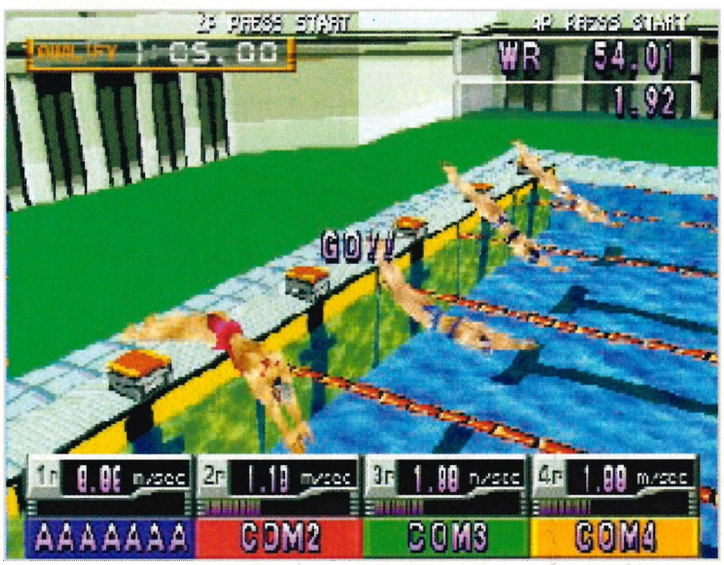
Platinum A-Z continued

International Track and Field

Well here we are, already up to the 'I's with no sign of stopping. If getting a bargain's your thang then turn to our rated section for this month's platinum releases: Gran Turismo, Crash Bandicoot 2 and Final Fantasy VII. But not before you've checked these out...

BABES IN BIKINIS

BIKINI MODE
AT THE GAME SELECT SCREEN HIGHLIGHT 100M FREESTYLE. NOW PRESS ↑ ↑ ↓ ↓ ← → ← → ● ✕. YOUR SWIMMER WILL BE WEARING A BIKINI.



■ If you squint really hard then the second swimmer turns into Sharron Davies, no really

Dead or Alive

Is there a way of getting secret fighters in Dead or Alive? I have fought against Raidou and I was wondering if I can get him. Cheers.
R. Thompson

Yup, to make Raidou selectable you've got to beat the whole game on default settings with all ten characters. Raidou will then become available. Our hairy reviews editor finished the game on his first go. And if he can do it, it must be easy.



■ It's gonna be tough to get Raidou, but you wouldn't let a foxy lady down, would you?

New games, new cheats

Smokin'

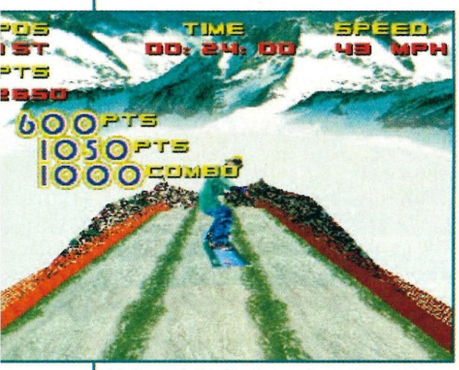
We've got some tasty cheat-pie to get your cheatin' fingers around. Feel free to help yourself.

BIG AIR

BOSS CODES

ENTER THESE CODES AT THE MAIN MENU, THEN FINISH IN FIRST PLACE ON THE FIRST TRACK IN THE WORLD TOUR TO GET THE BOSS ON THE NEXT RACE.

SHAWN PALMER	■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■
MIKE BEALLO	■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ● ●
NICOLA THOST	■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ●
IAN SPIRO	■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ● ■
ROSS POWERS	■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ● ■ ■
FABIEN ROHRER	■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ● ■ ●



■ Check it out. Muchos cool, muchos points

SPIN MOVES

ALL MOVES SHOULD START BY: PRESSING THE ✕ BUTTON, PERFORMING THE MOVE, THEN RELEASING THE ✕ BUTTON.
REVERSE MOVES FOR OPPOSITE EFFECT.

180° SPIN	LEFT TO RIGHT
360° SPIN	LEFT TO RIGHT
540° SPIN	LEFT TO RIGHT
720° SPIN	LEFT TO RIGHT
960° SPIN	LEFT TO RIGHT
1960° SPIN	LEFT TO RIGHT
1080° SPIN	LEFT TO RIGHT

OPEN COUNTRIES & BOARDS

AT THE TITLE SCREEN ENTER: ➡ ⬅ ➡ ⬅
THEN ENTER ANY OF THE FOLLOWING HANDY CHEAT CODES...

OPEN COUNTRIES	● ■ ● ■
SECRET BOARD 1	■ ■ ■ ●
SECRET BOARD 2	■ ■ ● ■
SECRET BOARD 3	■ ■ ● ●
SECRET BOARD 4	■ ● ■ ■
SECRET BOARD 5	■ ● ■ ●
SECRET BOARD 6	■ ● ● ■
SECRET BOARD 7	■ ● ● ●
SECRET BOARD 8	● ■ ■ ■
SECRET BOARD 9	● ■ ■ ●

TRICK GRABS

180°	⬅ ⬅
360°	⬅ ⬅ ➡
540°	⬅ ⬅ ➡ ➡
720°	⬅ ⬅ ➡ ➡ ➡
900°	⬅ ⬅ ➡ ➡ ➡ ⬅
1080°	⬅ ⬅ ➡ ➡ ➡ ⬅ ⬅
180° NOSE GRAB	⬅ ⬅ R1 + △
360° TAIL GRAB	⬅ ⬅ R1 + ✕ ➡
540° FRONTSIDE AIR	⬅ ⬅ R1 + ● ➡ ➡
720° METHOD	⬅ ⬅ R1 + ■ ➡ ➡ ➡
900° MUTE	⬅ ⬅ R1 + ■ ➡ ➡ ➡ ⬅
1080° STALEFISH	⬅ ⬅ R1 + ● ➡ ➡ ➡ ⬅ ⬅



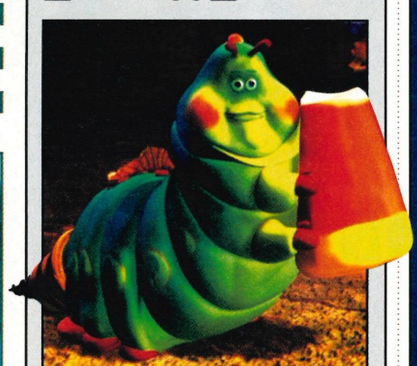
■ You can almost smell the fresh air

THE IN-AIR GRABS

TAIL GRAB	✕
METHOD	■
NOSE GRAB	△
FRONTSIDE AIR	●
LIEN AIR	R1 + ✕
FLIP B	✕ + TAP DOWN x2
MUTE AIR	R1 + ■
RODEO	■ + TAP UP x2
INDY AIR	R1 + △
FLIP	△ + TAP DOWN x2
STALE FISH	R1 + ●
RODEO 2	● + TAP DOWN x2

BUGS LIFE

FOR INFINITE LIVES ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS GO TO THE MAIN MENU, HOLD R1 AND PRESS ✕ ● L2.



■ Even bugs enjoy a pint of real ale

ROLLCAGE

In order to make these cheats work you should enter them at the password screen. Then enter the game and your cheats should be activated. Simple as...

AIRHORNS

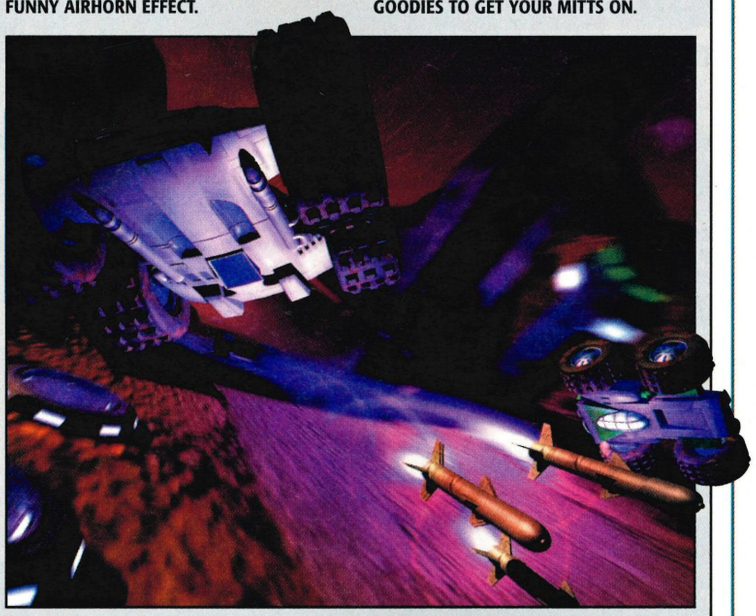
PRESS SEL WHILE RACING FOR A RATHER FUNNY AIRHORN EFFECT.

BESTLAPS

SHOWS THE DEVELOPERS' BEST LAP TIMES. IDEAL FOR PICKING UP TIPS.

MAXCHEAT

SUPER CHEAT THAT TURNS ON THE SELECT CHARACTER, PLUS LOADS MORE GOODIES TO GET YOUR MITTS ON.



■ If only there was a cheat to improve your reaction times, 'cos this is one fast game to play

T'AI FU: WRATH OF THE TIGER

MAP SCREEN CHEAT MODE

PRESS R2 △ R2 △ ● ⬇ ■ AT THE MAP SCREEN. THIS CODE MUST BE ACTIVATED BEFORE ANY OF THE OTHER CODES AT THE MAP SCREEN CAN BE USED.

LEVEL/BOSS SELECT MENU

R2 △ R2 △ ● ■ ⬇ △ ⬆ ➡ ⬅ ⬇ ⬆ L1
AT THE MAP SCREEN.

STORY/STYLE SELECT MENU

R2 △ R2 △ ■ ● ⬇ △ ⬆ ⬅ ➡ ⬇ ⬆ L2
AT THE MAP SCREEN.

CREDITS & FMV SEQUENCE

R2 △ R2 △ ⬇ ■ ● △ ⬆ ⬇ ⬅ ➡ ⬆ R1
AT THE MAP SCREEN.

GAMEPLAY CHEAT MODE

PRESS R2 △ R2 △ ● ✕ ■ DURING GAME. CODE MUST BE ENABLED BEFORE THE FOLLOWING CODES CAN BE ACTIVATED.

ALL FIGHTING STYLES

IN GAME ENTER R2 △ R2 ⬅ ➡ △

FULL CHI

IN GAME ENTER R2 △ R2 ⬅ ➡ ■

FULL HEALTH

IN GAME ENTER R2 △ R2 ⬅ ➡ ●

INVINCIBILITY

IN GAME ENTER R2 △ R2 ⬅ ➡ R1

STEALTH MODE

IN GAME ENTER R2 △ R2 ⬅ ➡ R2

LARGER ENEMIES

IN GAME ENTER R2 △ R2 ⬅ ➡ ⬆

SMALLER ENEMIES

IN GAME ENTER R2 △ R2 ➡ ⬇

UNLIMITED LIVES

IN GAME ENTER R2 △ R2 ⬅ ➡ ✕

DEBUG MODE

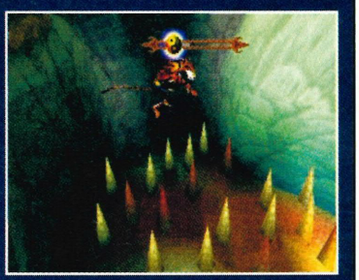
L1 + L2 + R1 + R2 + SEL AT MAP SCREEN.

UNLOCK MAP

PRESS R1 + R2 WHILE T'AI FU IS WALKING BETWEEN LEVELS. ANY PART OF THE MAP MAY NOW BE EXPLORED. PRESS ■ TO PLAY THE SELECTED AREA.

FINAL BOSS BATTLE

ENABLE THE UNLOCK MAP CODE. PRESS ● WHILE EXPLORING MAP TO ADVANCE TO THE FINAL BOSS WITH ALL STYLES.



■ Tai was going to need his wits about him in order to avoid the carefully-placed spikes

L is for 'loadsa cheats'

LEGACY OF KAIN: BLOOD OMEN

TO ACTIVATE THE FOLLOWING CHEATS JUST ENTER THE CODES OPPOSITE WHILE PLAYING

BLOOD REFILL
FULL MAGIC
ALL MOVIES



■ With our help all this is yours

LOADED

WHILE PLAYING, PRESS START TO GET TO THE IN-GAME OPTIONS MENU. NOW HOLD DOWN L1 AND L2 FOR TEN SECONDS. KEEP HOLDING THESE BUTTONS AND PRESS THE SEQUENCES BELOW TO GET THE CHEATS. THE ITEMS WILL APPEAR AS EXTRA OPTIONS IN THE MENU. SIMPLY HIGHLIGHT THE DESIRED EFFECT BY PRESSING ↑ OR ↓ AND THEN PRESS START TO SELECT. WHAT A DODDLE.

AMMO
HEALTH
LEVEL SELECT
LEVEL SKIP
LIVES
POWER

THE LOST WORLD: JURASSIC PARK



■ T-Rex, not the friendliest of pets to keep



■ Raptor, fast as lightning, and twice as deadly

TO ACTIVATE THESE CHEATS ENTER THE CODES BELOW IN THE PASSWORD SCREEN, THEN HEY PRESTO, GAME ON.

99 LIVES AND ALL DNA

COMPY
HUNTER
RAPTOR
T-REX
PREY

CHARACTER SELECT

HUNTER
PREY
RAPTOR
T-REX

Bloody Roar

Hello, have you got any cheats for Bloody Roar, as I'd like them?
Tony Denty

You are such a polite young man, you must have been brung up really well. It's a pleasure to do business Tone, it really is.

MASSIVE HEADS

TO GIVE THE FIGHTERS HEADS THE SIZE OF THE MEKON, PLAY THE GAME ON NORMAL MODE AND PUT THE CURSOR OVER A FIGHTER ON THE CHARACTER SELECT SCREEN, THEN HOLD L2 AND PRESS ◉.



■ He wasn't a big head, just damn good

SMALL FIGHTERS

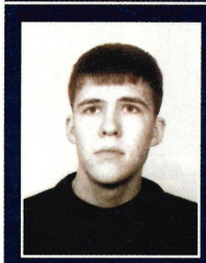
TO MAKE YOUR SOLDIERS REALLY TINY PUT THE CURSOR OVER A FIGHTER ON THE CHARACTER SELECT SCREEN, THEN HOLD R2 AND PRESS ◉. WHY YOU'D WANT TINY FIGHTERS, WE DON'T KNOW.



■ You've got to watch the little guys

Smart Alec

Way to go



Big up to Richard Shields, he's written in and answered A. Kayum's query from April. Seems he's top dog when it comes to Tomb Raider III. He answered this taxing question.

I'm stuck on Tomb Raider III, the second level, Crash Site. How do you cross over to the other side after pulling the switch?

1 Before you go into the river climb the rough wall at the base of the tree. Shimmy to the right. Got it?

2 Now go onto the slippery slope and perform a back flip onto the branch and quickly kill the dinosaur. Look around and you'll see a dead dinosaur hanging of his chain. Jump from branch to branch in an anti-clockwise direction.

3 Once there shoot at the dinosaur until it falls into the water. You'll now have all the time in the world to pull the switch and cross the river as the piranhas will be otherwise occupied with a tasty dinoburger. Easy.
Yours the smart bastid.
Richard

Fancy a piece of the action? Well rub those brain cells together and get cracking on this month's question.

How the **** do you get off the jungle maze level of Broken Sword 2? I have clicked on the marker in the theodolite, but can't find the exit.
Tarmo

Send in the answer, along with a passport-sized photo and your mug will feature in the mag. But don't try and rip us off, we already know the answers so we can tell when you're trying to pull a fast one. Remember to mark your envelopes 'Smart Alec'.

■ She's tough lady, good job we know how to handle her

»

Instant Expert: Your problems solved

Final Fantasy VII

The truth is out there



Our lady of Midgar, Elaine, is back to answer your Final Fantasy VII questions. This month we look at the Corel reactor, Barret's secret sevens and Yuffie. Keep the questions coming in, in the meantime...

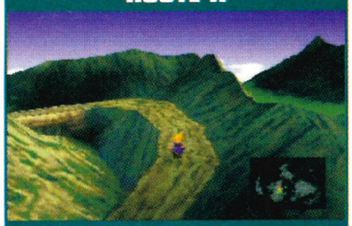
Where is the Corel Reactor?
Joel Chim

Right. There are two ways to find it...

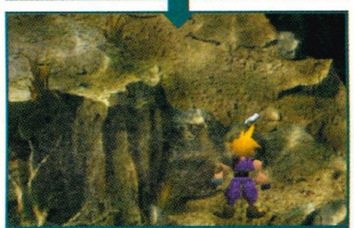
A: You can travel along the mountain path from Costa Del Sol. You'll then see a cave tunnel on a green bank. follow the path upwards and you'll come to the reactor.

B: Start at North Corel and exit the town via the north exit. Go over the long bridge, follow the rail tracks, over another bridge and the reactor will be at the very end.

ROUTE A



■ Follow the mountain path...



■ Mountain climbing, no problem...

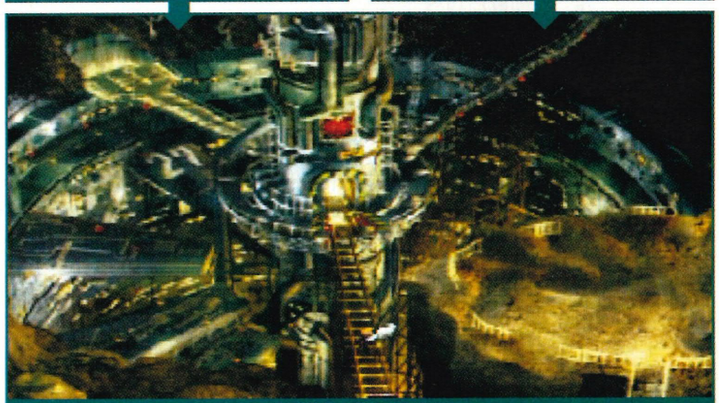
ROUTE B



■ Once out of the town follow the bridge...



■ Up and over the rollercoaster...



COREL REACTOR

How do you get Yuffie? I've found her and beat her but she won't join up.
James Grant

It's not that simple, I'm afraid. She's quite a minx and has no real reason to go with you. So you have to butter her up and coax her into it. Here's how...

When you've beaten her, talk to her and she'll challenge you to another fight. You'll get options to choose from, and your first answer should be 'not interested'. Then she'll taunt you. Talk to her again. This time she'll ask you if you're scared of her. You should answer 'petrified'.

She'll want to leave now, so you've got to stop her by answering 'wait a second!' Now she'll get the picture, and she'll ask you if you want her. Answer 'that's right'. But don't ask her name, or she'll steal your cash and leg it. Instead, choose 'let's hurry on' as your last answer. This should do it. From then on she's all yours. That is, until you decide to visit Wutai... ha, ha.

Is there a cheat called 'Barret's secret sevens', and how do you get it?
Andrew Oliphant

It's actually called the 'All Lucky Sevens' effect, and is incredibly tough to get. The effect is triggered when a character's HP gets reduced to 7,777 in a battle. The result? your MP levels out at 777, and each blow dealt to the enemy causes 7,777 damage points.



■ Say hello to your travelling companion

ISS Pro 98

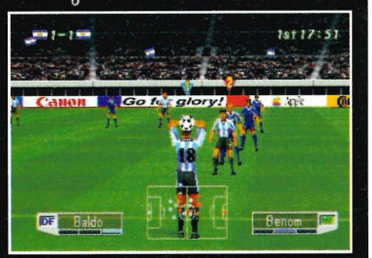
Dear lads, have you got any cheats for ISS Pro 98? I've heard there is something about a star team.
Terry Marsden

CLASSIC ALL-STAR PLAYERS
HIGHLIGHT THE EXHIBITION OPTION. THEN PRESS ↑ ↑ ↓ ↓ ← → ← → ○ ✕. IF YOU'VE DONE THIS RIGHT YOU'LL HEAR THE CROWD CLAPPING. AT THE COUNTRY SELECT SCREEN HOLD L1 + R1 TO DISPLAY THE CLASSIC ALL-STAR TEAM. PRESS ✕ TO SELECT.

PLAY AS SAME COUNTRIES
AGAIN, HIGHLIGHT THE EXHIBITION OPTION. THEN PRESS ↑ ↑ ↓ ↓ ← → ← → ○ ✕. YOU'LL HEAR THE CROWD CLAPPING AGAIN. AT THE COUNTRY SELECT SCREEN PLAYER ONE HOLD L1 + R1 TO DISPLAY THE CLASSIC ALL-STAR TEAM. PLAYER TWO NOW PUTS THEIR CURSOR OVER THE SAME COUNTRY AND SELECTS THAT TEAM. PLAYER 1 CAN NOW RELEASE L1 + R1 ALLOWING THEM TO SELECT THE SAME TEAM. TEAMS WILL AUTOMATICALLY BE GIVEN DIFFERENT COLOURED STRIPS.



■ The All-Star team is made up from legendary players from all around the world



■ This being Argentina vs Argentina expect to see them all sent off for cheating

Bust-A-Groove

Get jiggy wid it

Please, please tell me how to play as all the characters in Bust-A-Groove.
Mel T

PLAY AS CAPOEIRA
COMPLETE THE GAME UNDER THE NORMAL DIFFICULTY LEVEL.

PLAY AS ROBO-Z
COMPLETE THE GAME UNDER THE NORMAL DIFFICULTY LEVEL AFTER CAPOEIRA HAS BEEN UNLOCKED.

PLAY AS BURGER DOG
COMPLETE THE GAME AS HAMM UNDER THE NORMAL DIFFICULTY LEVEL AFTER ROBO-Z HAS BEEN UNLOCKED.

PLAY AS COLUMBO
COMPLETE THE GAME AS SHORTY UNDER THE NORMAL DIFFICULTY LEVEL AFTER ROBO-Z HAS BEEN UNLOCKED.

ALTERNATE COSTUMES
HIGHLIGHT ANY CHARACTER IN THE GAME, THEN HOLD SEL AND PRESS ✕ FOR A NEW COSTUME

LEVEL SKIP
COMPLETE THE GAME ONCE WITH ANY CHARACTER. BEGIN GAME PLAY IN SINGLE PLAYER MODE AND PRESS L2 + SEL WHEN A SONG BEGINS TO JUMP TO THE NEXT LEVEL.

ATTACK OPPONENT
PRESS △ TO ATTACK AN OPPONENT.

DODGE ATTACKS
PRESS □ TO AVOID AN ATTACK.

DANCE PREVIEW
COMPLETE THE GAME UNDER THE EASY DIFFICULTY LEVEL IN ORDER TO GET THE DANCE PREVIEW



■ You've got to let the rhythm flow through you, think Travolta, think Torvill and Dean

Platinum A-Z continued

M is for 'mong cheats'

MICRO MACHINES V3

DOUBLE SPEED
WHILE RACING PRESS:
■ ➡ ➡ ⬇ ⬆ ⬇ ⬅ ⬇ ⬇
IF YOU HEAR A BEEP THEN YOU'VE DONE IT RIGHT. (TO CANCEL JUST RE-ENTER THE SAME CODE AGAIN).

DEBUG MODE
WHILE RACING PRESS:
■ ⬆ ⬇ ⬇ ■ ● ● △ ✕
A BEEP WILL SOUND IF YOU'VE DONE IT RIGHT. NOW DO THE FOLLOWING:
WIN ANY RACE:
SEL + ✕ TO QUIT RACE AND WIN.
CHANGE CAMERA ANGLE:
SEL + ⬆ ⬇ ⬅ ➡
CONTROL CAMERA ZOOM:
L2 / R2
TURN PLAYER'S CAR INTO CONSOLES:
SEL + ■
BLOW UP ALL CARS:
✕ + △ + ● + ■

THREE LIVES IN MULTIPLAYER MODE
ENTER YOUR NAME AS 3LIVES

HALF-SPEED OPPONENTS
WHILE RACING PRESS:
● ✕ ● △ ■ ✕ ● △ ■ ✕



■ If you're looking for multi-player fun then look no further than Micro Machines V3 – it's ace

BIG BOUNCE
DURING THE RACE ENTER:
■ ➡ ➡ ⬇ ⬆ ⬇ ⬅ ⬇ ⬇. TO RETURN TO NORMAL, RE-ENTER THE SAME CODE.

TANKS ON ALL TRACKS
ENTER THE FOLLOWING AS A CHARACTER NAME: TANKS4ME

NO TANK WEAPONS MULTI-PLAY
ENTER NOTANKS AS A PLAYER NAME. YOU CAN ENTER ANOTHER NAME BEFORE STARTING THE GAME.

SNOW DURING TROPHY WIN
ENTER THE FOLLOWING AS A CHARACTER NAME: WINTERY

MORTAL KOMBAT TRILOGY

CHEATS MENU
AT THE OPTIONS SCREEN HOLD L1 + L2 + R1 + R2 + ⬆ UNTIL THE SCREEN SHAKES. THEN GO TO THE QUESTION MARK FROM WHERE YOU CAN CHOOSE FROM: ONE BUTTON FATALITIES, HEALTH RECOVERY, INSTANT AGGRESSOR, NORMAL BOSS DAMAGE AND LOW DAMAGE.

LEVEL SELECT
TO SELECT YOUR STARTING LEVEL IN ONE-PLAYER OR VS MODE, HIGHLIGHT SONYA AND PRESS ⬆ + ST

PLAY AS CHAMELEON
CHOOSE ANY MALE NINJA AND HOLD ⬅ + R1 + R2 + ■ + △ UNTIL THE MATCH BEGINS.



■ With us you can go wherever you want



■ It was a stand-off alright, a Mexican stand-off

Help

Sometimes even we can't help with your game problems. Hard to believe, we know. So here are the phone numbers to all the software houses, taking you straight to their cheats line or technical support. Remember to ask the permission of whoever pays the phone bill, they'll tan your ass otherwise.



ACCLAIM	09068 303330
ACTIVISION	01895 456700
TAKE 2/BMG	01429 855046
CODEMASTERS	01926 816044
ELECTRONIC ARTS	0906 753253
EIDOS	0121 3560831
GREMLIN	01142 799 020
GT INTERACTIVE	0891 669910
INTERPLAY	0839 662666
JVC	0171 240 3121
KONAMI	09014 747484
MICROPROSE	01454 893900
NAMCO	0881 505505
PSYGNOSIS	0151 282 3333
SONY	0881 505505
TELSTAR	01932 232299
THQ	07071 223388
UBI SOFT	0181 944 9000

■ Some people take games like Command and Conquer - Red Alert far to seriously

Cyber-helpery

Geek Speak

If you fancy looking at something other than naked ladies while surfing, then take a gander at this prime selection...

http://www.game-revolution.com/content.htm
http://www.ugo.net/OAS/ugo/try-it.cgi
http://www.segasages.com
http:www.widearea.co.uk/playstation.coolsites.html
http://www.geocities.com/silliconvalley/vista/1289/tips.html
http://www.a-p-i.net/absolute-playstation/tips/acheats.htm



■ 'So, how cool is the future?'

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LONDON
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TURBO DUO

WORTH UP TO £200

Failed CD-based console from the early 90s that was never released in the UK. Depending on its condition, you can expect to get as much as £200 for one.

ATARI JAGUAR

WORTH UP TO £20

Godawful console which died on its arse over here. They're quite rare (basically 'cos nobody bought 'em) and you can expect to get about £20 for one.

RETRO COMPUTERS

WORTH UP TO £20

A few years before the PlayStation took over the world, the Commodore 64 was the very best home computer money could buy. Then Commodore went bust. Flogging one of these top machines will fetch you around £20.

STAR WARS TOYS

WORTH UP TO £2,148

Original Star Wars toys go for a bomb. A boxed 12" Boba Fett figure is worth a cool £230. A boxed wind-up walking R2D2 will fetch up to £1,473 and a boxed Jawa figure with plastic cape will get you a staggering £2,148. Not bad, eh?

WHAT YOUR JUNK'S WORTH

Fit for the tip or worth a mint? We root through your loft...

SEGA GAME GEAR

WORTH UP TO £40

Sega's rival to Nintendo's GameBoy, although technically far superior, went the same way as just about every other Sega console. If the screen's in decent nick, you should get between £30-£40.

SEGA MASTER SYSTEM

WORTH UP TO £30

The Master System is a primitive Sega console which is quite hard to come by. Retro collectors will hand over between £20-£30 for a machine in good condition.


SUPER NINTENDO
WORTH UP TO £20
Nintendo's fantastic Super NES was the console to own before PlayStation came along. They don't fetch a great deal of money simply 'cos they're so popular. Expect to get around £15-£20.
OLD MAGS
WORTH UP TO £40
Old magazines and comics can become real collectors' items. The first issue of the X-Files comic is now worth around £30 and the Gillian Anderson issue of FHM will go for up to £40.
THE ESSENTIAL GUIDE TO THE SONY PLAYS
NEW!
FHM
FOR HIM MAGAZINE
BACHELOR PADS: TURN YOUR PLACE INTO TOTTY
OLD GAMES
WORTH UP TO £200
Most old games are worth sod all. But the odd few have become collector's items and will sell for a hefty wad of notes. Final Fantasy II & III on the SNES will get up to £60, Star Wars on the Atari 2600 will fetch around £100 and the original Metal Gear (the prequel to Metal Gear Solid) on the MSX2 console will go for anything up to £200.
SEGA MEGA-CD
WORTH UP TO £20
This is a CD-drive add-on for the Megadrive which, like most of Sega's consoles, was an absolute failure. They're quite difficult to get hold of now, so it should fetch around £30-£40.
SEGA MEGADRIVE
WORTH UP TO £20
Sega's fantastic Megadrive console ruled the videogames roost in the early 90s. They're not worth a hell of a lot now, basically 'cos they're so popular. You could probably expect to get between £15-£20 for a machine in good condition.
SEGA 32X
WORTH UP TO £40
The ill-fated add-on for the Megadrive was just another nail in Sega's coffin. It's a bit of a retro collector's item now, and could fetch between £30-£40.
16-BIT
MEGA DRIVE SEGA
MEGA-CD SEGA

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Rated

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HOW WE RATE STUFF

0-50%	Total toss
51-60%	Just toss
61-70%	Only okay
71-80%	Good, not great
81-90%	Almost classic
91-100%	Essential play

Rent it	winner	Platinum
Good game, but maybe a bit limited, not worth buying	A great game (91% plus) you've just got to play	A range of games all reduced to the budget price of £19.99

Final Fantasy VII: the biggest 'Station game ever for £20. Bargain.

RATED THIS MONTH

p80 GTA London
Breakin' the law on the streets of the Smoke

p82 Rampage 2
Crush cities in this B-movie monster mash

p82 Croc 2
Sweet-looking 3D platformer that bites

p83 Bomberman Racing
Chuck bombs to get ahead in this racer

p84 NBA Pro 99
Multiplayer b-ball action with all the latest teams

p85 Wing Over 2
The most in-depth flight sim on the 'Station

p85 Legend of Kartia
2D role-player takes on the might of Final Fantasy

p86 Pro 18 Golf
Real golfers! Realistic swings!

p88 Anna K's Smash Court Tennis
The most playable tennis game EVER

p89 Triple Play 2000
Baseball sim with all the pro teams

p90 Bomberman
This bomb-chucking game's a blast!

p90 X-Games Pro Boarders
Big slopes and tough stunts to conquer

p92 Trap Runner
Sly game of sci-fi cat and mouse

p92 Puma Street Soccer
Multiplayer soccer on the streets

p93 Final Fantasy VII
Epic RPG for just £20

p94 Gran Turismo
The best way to spend your twenty nicker

p96 Crash Bandicoot 2
Smart-looking platformer goes Platinum

p103 The Knowledge
Essential guide to every game released

PLUS The Knowledge

Get sussed! Our honest scores on every PlayStation game ever released... PLUS! The lowdown on the latest game gear, the best sports sims, puzzle games you must own and more. Starts p103

Knowledge: updated every month

All Games Rated between 71%-100%

The best games



■ **OUT** NOW ■ **BY** TAKE 2 ■ **COSTS** £19.99 ■ **PLAYERS** 1 ■ **COMPATIBILITIES** JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD, DUAL SHOCK PAD

GTA LONDON

It's the summer of 69 and crime's hotting up on the streets of the ol' Smoke

Grand Theft Auto's a steal at £20. If you haven't got it, you should, especially if you want GTA London. Y'see, this is a mission pack – you need the original to play it. Unfortunately guv'nor, it ain't so Robin Hood, if you catch our drift.



WARNING! This is not a full game

That's right, you can't stick GTA London in your 'Station and expect it work straight off. Nope, you need to swap discs with the original to make it load, so if you haven't already got Grand Theft Auto then the complete package will set you back just under £40. So it's not so cheap after all.





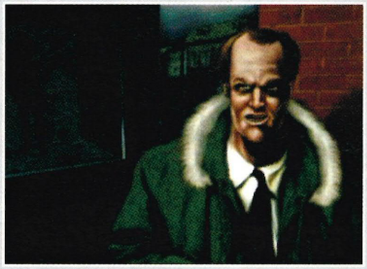
■ Don't take two games into th... Well you do need two actually. That's forty quid if you haven't already got the original GTA

Break the law

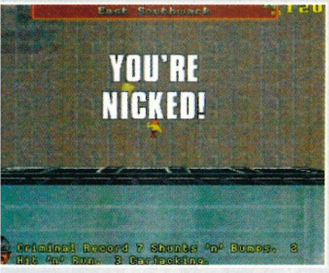
You're working for the East End mob, hired to run errands and cause havoc in the Smoke. This involves nicking any motor you want, by running up to a car, dragging the driver out, before climbing in a flooring it. The level of police interest increases the more crimes you commit, but these guys aren't so hot so you can get away with pretty much anything. Take out a rozzer and the heat starts to build though, and soon they'll be after you, guns blazing.



■ Four characters, but it doesn't matter who you choose



■ This here's one of the gang lords. Stupid looking tosspot, we reckon



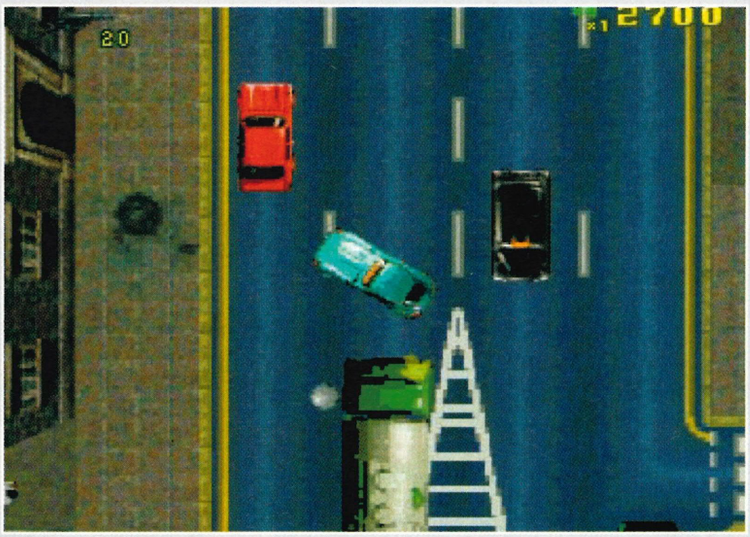
■ Not so lucky this time, huh?



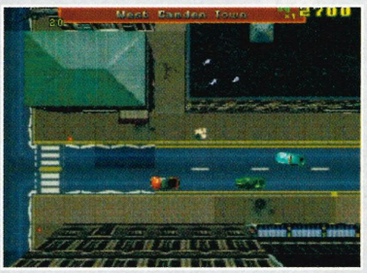
■ The Rozzers at the top of the screen indicate your crime rate

Sounds great, looks awful

A year on and GTA still doesn't look too hot. The flat, blocky graphics are embarrassing next to the cool 3D look of Driver, and that's enough to put most people off. It's fast though, and the music's superb. Still, it's impossible to ignore GTA's trademark Block-o-Vision.



■ When you're going slow, the graphics zoom in and look blocky



■ GTA London looks better when you floor it – not so chunky, huh?



■ Still, the sound is cool. You'll have to take our word on that, though

Weapons & stuff

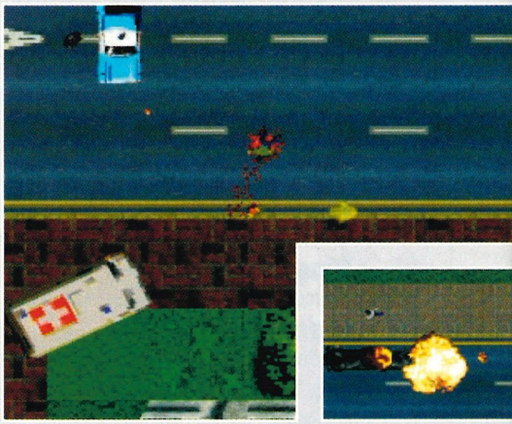
To get in with the Mob bosses you've got to carry out some gruesome tasks, including (gasp) murder. Luckily you're tooled-up, or at least you can be, by running over crates. Inside are pistols, machines guns, rocket launchers... some serious hardware, basically. You'll also find extra lives and clues to complete missions if you look hard enough.



■ Crack open the crate to see what goody's inside



■ You'll get the pistol first but it's pretty pathetic



■ The machine gun's best for mowing down Rozzers, just don't get shot

■ The rocket launcher's Cool

This ain't the Smoke

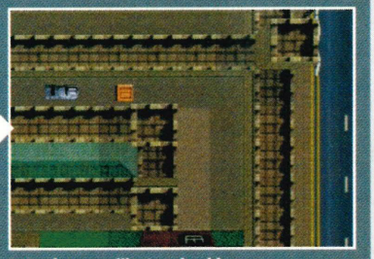
There were four cities in the original GTA, but only London's in here. But, and it's a big 'un, IT DOESN'T LOOK LIKE LONDON AT ALL! OK, everyone drives on the left and there are landmarks you might recognise. But since when has London been divided into blocks? And why do cop cars look like American cruisers? Brixton's a big lump of concrete, but here it looks like some park-ridden town centre.

WHISTLESTOP TOUR OF LANDAHN TAHN

REAL LIFE | **GTA LONDON**



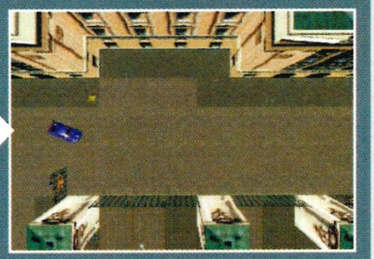
■ Tower of London: strong fortress



■ Looks more like Legoland here



■ Buckingham Palace: glorious Royal abode



■ Cruddy-looking block of flats



■ Tower bridge: opens to let boats through



■ And here it's always shut. No jumps, then

Hidden gear

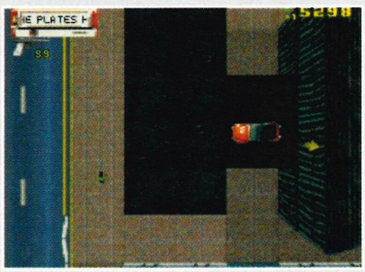
GTA London's crammed with hidden extras. OK, so there's nothing too radical to stumble across, but one of the neat touches to look out for is the tank, stashed somewhere between the crates in the docks. Climb inside and you get a 30-second kill frenzy, crushing cars under your tracks and nuking stuff with the turret gun. Awesome!



■ First you've gotta find the tank



■ Then you get 30 seconds to go on a kill frenzy



■ The message panel on the left for clues



■ You've gotta maim 'em pretty fast, though

plus

We'd like to say...

We really like the idea of add-on mission packs. Like, a lot. Imagine a load of extra cars and tracks in Gran Turismo, or new fighters and sub-games for Tekken 3. It's an awesome idea. But it's not done particularly well in GTA London. For starters it's not that cheap – £20 for one city, when you get three in the original for the same price – and the new stuff in there isn't much cop. If the streets looked more dirty, with tramps on each corner, it'd be much more realistic. And that's a fact!

New motors

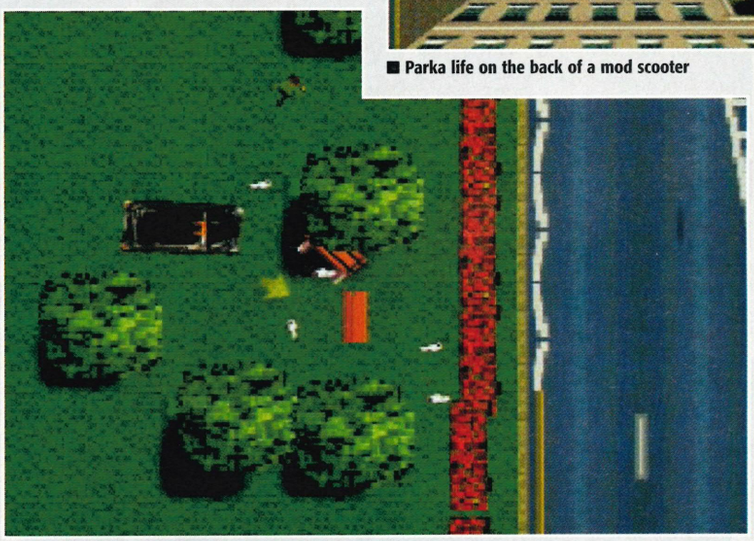
The best thing about GTA is the ability to steal any car on the road. And there are a load of new 'uns here, from Union Jack roadsters to black cabs. Recreate the Italian Job in a Mini Cooper, or go all Mod on a nifty scooter. All the motors handle differently, but you're better off sticking with a sports car, otherwise the Rozzers will tail your ass.



■ The Mini Cooper. Pure British class



■ Parka life on the back of a mod scooter



■ Nab a black cab and drum up some business on the streets



■ The cars aren't allowed to have proper names, so this 'un's called the James Bomb. Oh dear



■ All motors handle differently. The double decker's slow and cumbersome

A great idea that's shafted by dodgy graphics and a game map which just doesn't look like London. Stick with the original 'cos this really isn't worth the extra cash. **Alex**

PlayStation plus

RATED 68%

■ **OUT** NOW ■ **BY** GT ■ **COSTS** £39.99 ■ **PLAYERS** 1-3
■ **COMPATIBILITIES** JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD, DUAL SHOCK PAD, MULTITAP

RAMPAGE UNIVERSAL TOUR

Huge monsters go nuts. In a very dull way.

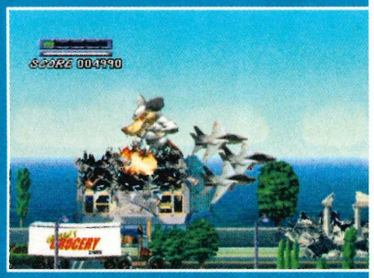
This is a ten-year-old arcade game where giant alien types go bonkers in cities, crushing, killing and destroying. Sounds fun. But did you catch the first bit? Ten. Years. Old. And time isn't kind to your average game...

Kill! Kill!

It's simple. Perhaps too simple. You climb buildings. You eat screaming blondes. You mercilessly crush tanks, aeroplanes and attack choppers. You eat more people. You avoid stuff like electricity and holes in the ground. Once you've killed one city, you up sticks and do it all again. And again. And again. Sigh.



■ Grab shrieking civilians, and snack down



■ Grab powerups and food bits out of buildings

Retro, schmetro

A decade ago, stuff like this made our hearts burst with joy. Now it's just old and crap. The stupid B-movie atmos isn't quite enough to make you forget the ugly-as-sin 2D graphics and drab gameplay. And even in three-player it's still dull, dull, dull.



■ Multiplayer. More fun, but still pretty crud



■ Jumping on buildings and even crushing planes will bore you to tears

Starts out fun, then quickly settles down to being grindingly abysmal. Once upon a time, this was a blast. But now it's basic, ugly and piss-dull. Don't. Just don't. Rob

PlayStation plus
RATED 54%

■ **OUT** JUNE ■ **BY** FOX INTERACTIVE ■ **COSTS** £39.99 ■ **PLAYERS** 1
■ **COMPATIBILITIES** JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD, DUAL SHOCK PAD

CROC 2

Croc. Just your average running, jumping, crocodile. Or maybe not so average...

Since the dawn of time there's been a conspiracy to infiltrate our lives with cuddly cute game characters. You know who they are. The latest salvo comes via Croc 2, a 3D adventure, mixing platforms with pukey sweet characters.

Once upon a Croc

The 'story' goes a little like this: evil Baron Dante has imprisoned the cute little Gobbos. And you've guessed it, Croc's got to rescue them. If this sounds familiar then it should. Bar a few differences this was the plot to the original Croc game. Then again people didn't complain about the similarities in the Die Hard films.



■ You've got to save these little fellows...



■ So you go in search of keys...



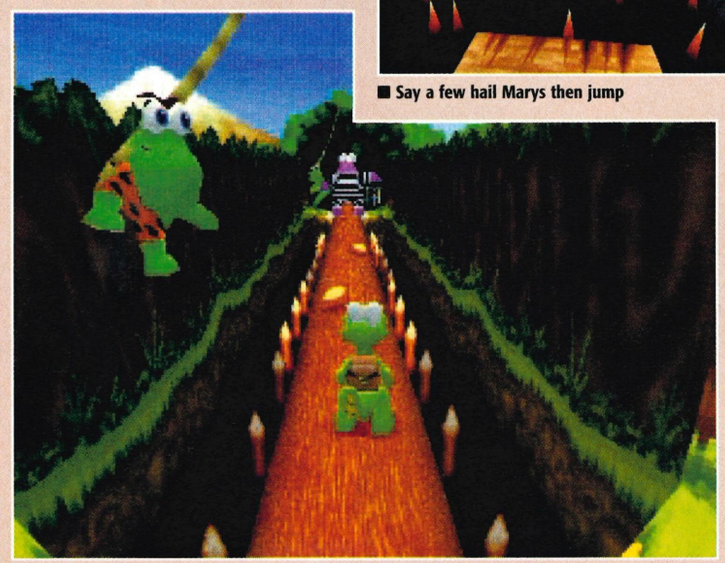
■ And boy, are they grateful

Quick

Sadly, Croc lets the side down a little in the control stakes. Like most platformers the game involves steering a straight line using nerves of steel and reflexes your average prizefighter would be proud of. But here the job's made more difficult by some over-sensitive controls. You'll find yourself shooting over the edge of stuff more than you'd like. And for some reason, stopping's tough, too...



■ Say a few hail Marys then jump



■ It's times like these some hand-to-eye co-ordination comes in handy

What's new

As you'd expect, levels are brand new. There's a greater degree of free-roaming to be had here, allowing for shortcuts and alternative routes. Independence comes at a price, though, with getting lost and re-doing areas an occupational hazard. This results in much head scratching, and in a few extreme cases, 'Station rage.



■ Check it out, it's like Gladiators



■ And you wondered what was in his rucksack



■ Stop thief, this is a crocizens arrest



■ Avoid the big guys, they're trouble

Moving on

One thing we can't gripe about is the visual quality of Croc 2. If it's screaming colour you want then look no further. This sucker positively yells at your retinas. Not only that, but the scenery's got a solid feel to it, too. None of that glitchy stuff you see elsewhere.



■ Graphics that'll reduce grown men to tears



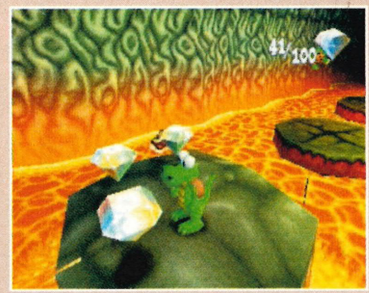
■ You'll find treasure in here



■ No weapons. Just crystals



■ A cornershop. Buy yourself powerups



■ Can a croc have too much crystal? Maybe, but since it all looks so nice, we won't complain

Not ace, but then again, not bad either. If only they'd sorted the control system... Still, this one's worth a punt if bonding with your little sister's a major priority. **Rich**

PlayStation plus

RATED 80%

■ **OUT** JUNE ■ **BY** VIRGIN ■ **COSTS** £39.99 ■ **PLAYERS** 1-2
■ **COMPATIBILITIES** JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD, DUAL SHOCK PAD, STEERING WHEEL

BOMBERMAN FANTASY RACE

A game too far for Bomberman? Believe it...

A bunch of cute little critters race around on giant pink rabbits throwing bombs at each other in a thoroughly wholesome and 'fun' way. Let's hope it's not just another shoddy, half-assed so-called 'comedy racer'. Damn. It is.

What's wrong

Well, for starters, looks-wise Bomberman Racing's a 24-carat trotter. Even the animation's crud. And we know saying 'The handling on this giant, pastel-coloured rabbit is unrealistic' is kind of odd, but believe us. The rabbits corner like bricks. Their legs don't seem to have any relation to how they're moving. They slide all over the shop. Oh dear. So, what's wrong? What's right?



■ The graphics. Jesus, the graphics...



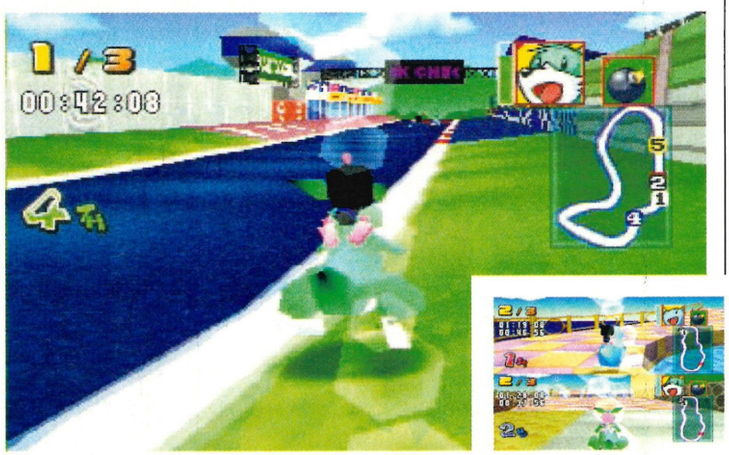
■ And the handling is beyond atrocious



■ Sadly, the bombs don't liven things up none

What's right?

There's not much right in here. Blowing people up at high speed will raise a weak laugh. Once. Then you'll become VERY irritated by the way you have to aim and shoot. There's quite a nice range of powerups, but the game's too shoddy to enjoy using 'em.



■ Powerups a go-go. But it won't rock your world

■ How can bombing be boring?

We kinda like Bomberman. So we were willing to overlook a couple of flaws in this. Sadly, it's almost entirely made up of flaws. Oops. Don't waste your cash. **Rob**

PlayStation plus

RATED 35%

■**OUT** JUNE ■**BY** KONAMI ■**COSTS** £39.99 ■**PLAYERS** 1-8 ■**COMPATIBILITIES** JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD, MULTITAP

NBA PRO 99

Standby for another basketball game from the land of the cheeseburger. Are you gonna be cock-a-hoop or is it hang-time for this offering?

When we opened the post and saw this we felt a shudder. It was deja vu. As if we'd seen a game like this before. Then we realised we'd reviewed 12 basketball games since the dawn of time. This is number 13, unlucky for all.

Looking like

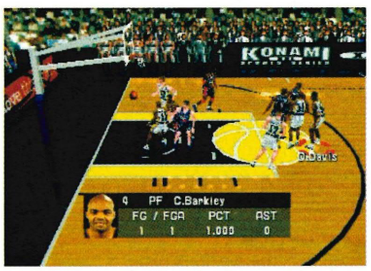
NBA Pro 99 doesn't claim to do anything radical within the world of 'Station basketball games. Instead it tackles the basics and tries to make a decent fist of it. Visually it's adequate, without ever breaking into the realm of trouser-tenting excitement or eye-popping visual excess. It's a real rock steady Eddie.



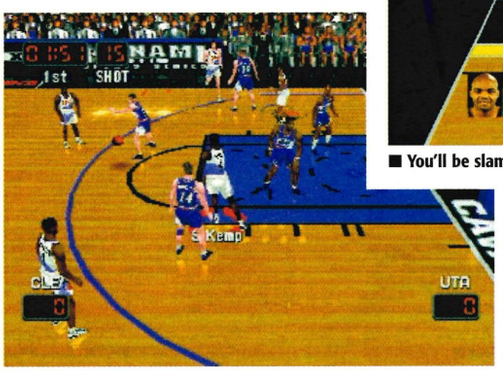
■ We think this looks OK. Nothing spectacular, mind. Just, you know, 'OK'

Making moves

The controls in here are designed for instant gratification. It's plug in and play, which is a perfect for the times when your mental faculties are dulled, say, by export lager or too much thinking.



■ You'll be slam dunking da funk in no time



■ This game is real easy to get into. That's a big plus, we say



■ Select players manually. Boo

plus We'd like to say...

There isn't anything badly wrong with this. If you want an accessible basketball game for up to eight mates then this is well worth a peek. But it's all been done before, and to a higher standard. If it's basketball you're after, go for NBA Live, we say.

For your money you get...

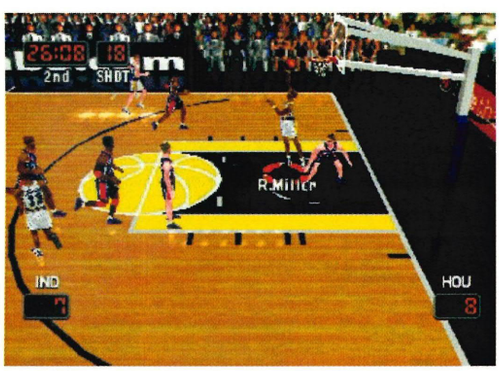
Like most sport games there's loadsa options crammed in, some useful and some not so. On the plus side NBA Pro 99 offers you an exhibition mode, NBA Playoffs, league and NBA All Stars, all with current players and teams. And on the crap side there's a three point shootout and a dunking contest. Both are fun for five minutes, and toilet thereafter.



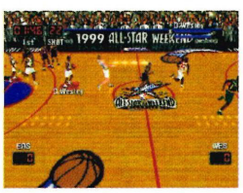
■ Stats. Don't you love 'em?



■ This is the dunking contest



■ Exhibition mode is as you'd expect. Straightforward fun dunking

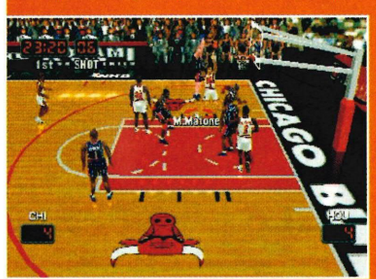


■ Dig those all-stars

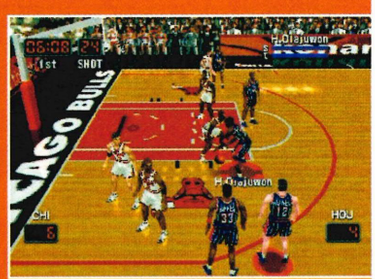
What we don't like

Frustration city

We know it's supposed to be difficult to tackle and dispossess in basketball. It's an attack-orientated sport. But if you add this realism to a game, then frustration creeps into the equation. You score a 'hoop', your opponent scores a 'hoop', and you carry on like this till fossil fuels run out and we revert to working the land. The point is gameplay would be improved by a better defensive control system.



■ Try jumping in front of the opposing player..



■ You'll be lucky to come away with the ball

Rent it Difficult to hate and difficult to love. Yankee basketball games need to be a bit special to turn our heads but this is nowt new. Rich

PlayStation plus RATED 61%

■ **OUT** NOW ■ **BY** JVC ■ **COSTS** £39.99 ■ **PLAYERS** 1
■ **COMPATIBILITIES** JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD, DUAL SHOCK PAD

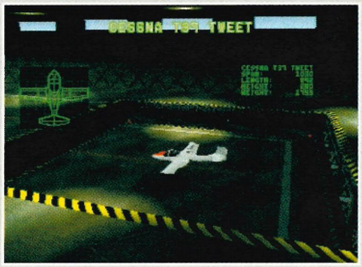
WING OVER 2

The first one was a shambles. The second one wants to be just like the first...

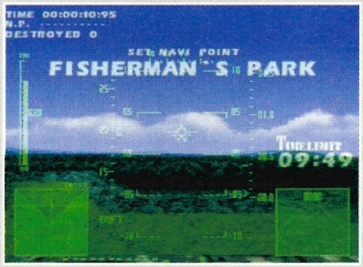
In quiet moments we sometimes wonder why there aren't any decent flight sims on the 'Station. Surely the lure of the skies warrants at least one? Well, if the people behind Wing Over 2 have anything to do with it you'll be waiting a while longer...

Back to school

Unlike many flight sims Wing Over 2 tries to offer you a total flying experience. So instead of climbing straight into a lunatic fast jet fighter and bombing various targets you have to start in little planes and learn your trade. If you're looking for instant glory look elsewhere. From getting a job to pay for your training to sitting exams, it's all in here. Top Gun it isn't.



■ Choose from slow and even slower

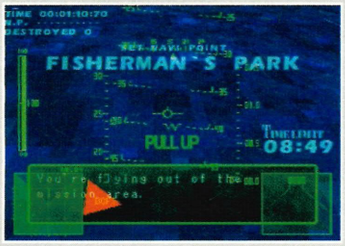


■ Then ditch it all for a glider

Not delivering the goods

Your early sorties involve delivering lunch (we kid you not) and other such pointless tasks. Sounds dull, and it is.

On a visual note the game looks OK, but don't expect to be blown away – it's adequate and only just. The truth is, unless you have a burning desire to be a airborne pizza delivery flier then this game will eventually induce a comatose state only broken by pressing the off button.



■ The urge to nose dive is overwhelming...



■ There are dinners that have to be delivered. But the temptation to lark about is still there

Oh dear, oh dear, oh dear. This is boring, looks pretty dull and plays slower than a geriatric bowling game. Only buy it if you need to lower your blood pressure. Rich

PlayStation plus
RATED 51%

■ **OUT** JUNE ■ **BY** KONAMI ■ **COSTS** £39.99 ■ **PLAYERS** 1
■ **COMPATIBILITIES** JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD

LEGEND OF KARTIA

More utter role-playing nonsense from the Land of the Rising Sun. Yawn.

Those garish children/dwarves that the Japanese so love. Heaps of badly-translated Conan-esque plot. And fantasy war-gaming. Surely three of the worst things in the world. And here they are on one CD. Run for your lives!

Ye gods!

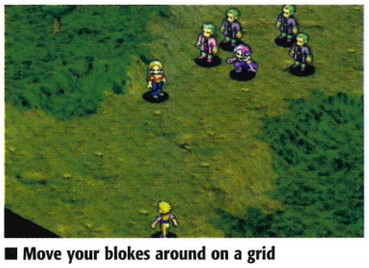
This is the stuff of nightmares. You wade through seemingly endless tracts of meaningless drivel spouted by cute little gits who look like they walked straight off a game console from ten years ago. Then you're 'rewarded' with a big slice of insanely dull fantasy-board-game type fighting. Repeat this process until you're praying for death. Oh dear.



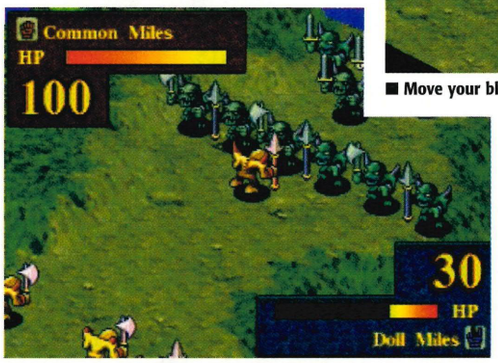
■ The plot. It just doesn't bear repeating. So we're not going to. OK?

Fighting!

Right. Here's the drill. You move your lads on a sort of grid across the landscape. In turn-based style, you cast spells at each other. You summon 'phantoms'. You move Phantoms around, matching different kinds to your best advantage. Sounds dull? Oh yes. You really can't imagine HOW dull...



■ Move your blokes around on a grid



■ Then summon Phantoms to do your dirty work



■ Match Phantoms to win

Dull and crap. Not to mention drab, boring and abysmal. We had no choice but to play this game. We review games for a living. You have a choice. Use it. Rob

PlayStation plus
RATED 43%

■ **OUT** NOW ■ **BY** PSYGNOSIS ■ **COSTS** £39.99 ■ **PLAYERS** 1-4 ■ **COMPATIBILITIES** JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD

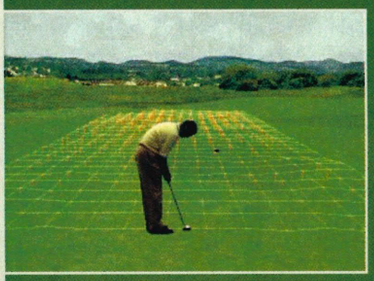
PRO 18 GOLF

Taking golf games into the second dimension!

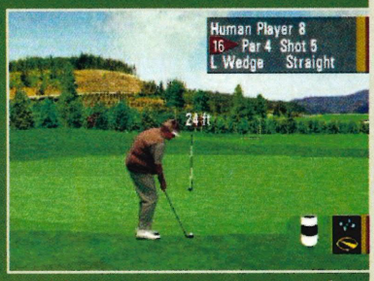
You might be wondering why up till now no-one had produced a golf game made up of stills of real golf courses, with two-dimensional pics of real golfers swinging away on them. Stop wondering. It's because it looks terrible. Simple, really.

Animation!

If you squint, the little 2D animated golfers swinging away look almost like real golfers out there on the links. Almost. For a second. And you have to squint VERY hard. But if you look without squinting, this is really quite ugly. The lighting. The flat scenery. The silly little cardboard men. Oh dear.



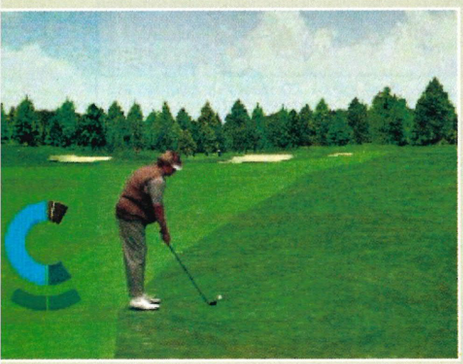
■ Real golfers. This probably looks OK in a still, but in motion it's Pretty Damn Silly



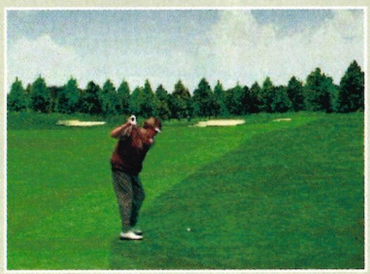
■ And the way you move your target around on the landscape's just crap

Controls!

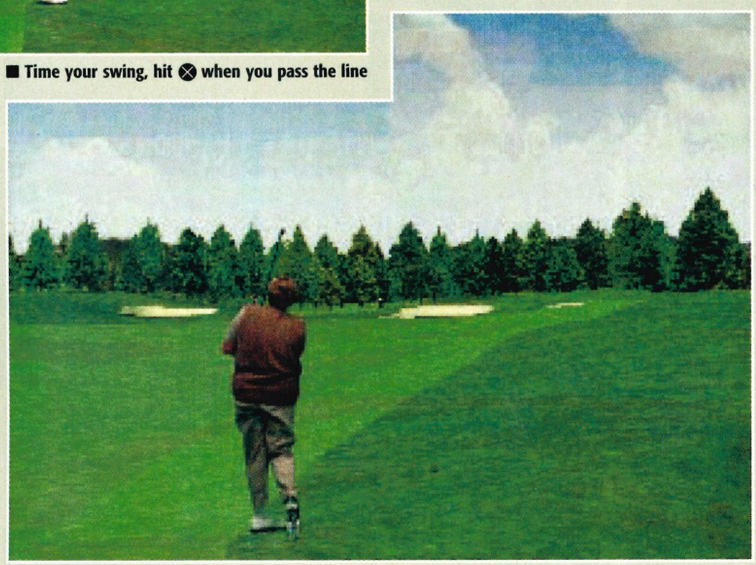
Where this game really slips up is the controls. OK, so all golf games use power bars, but here you've got not one, but three rising and falling bars to time your button presses on. And it just doesn't work. Maybe with days of practice, you'd get to a point where you don't blouse one shot in three, but we didn't get there. And we're professionals, damn it all...



■ Time your swing, hit ⊗ when you pass the line



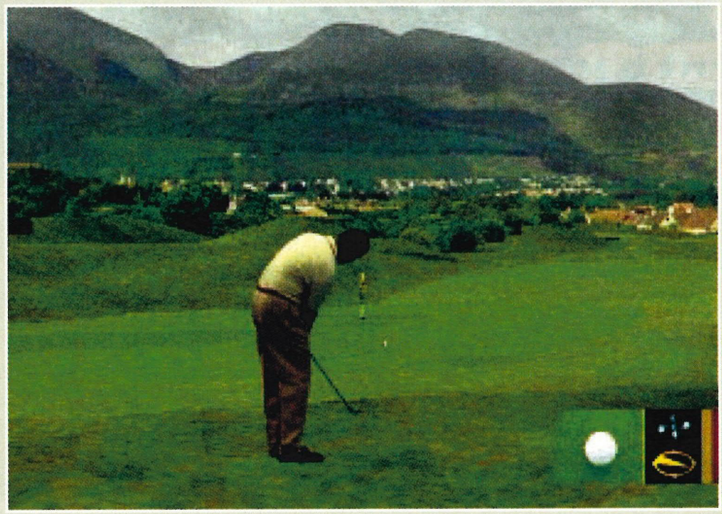
■ Next hit ⊗ as you pass the start again...



■ And hold ⊗ to build up exactly the right amount of power. HOW difficult?

Putting

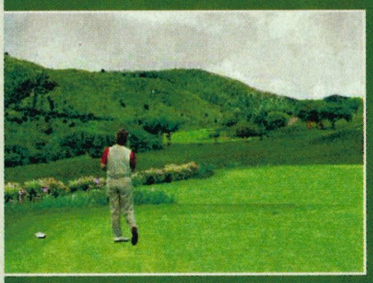
We mentioned the appalling controls, did we not? Well, where this really makes the game rubbish is on the green. Thing is, if you're right next to the edge of the green, you'll need a sandwedge or something similar. And the way the powerbar works means you almost always belt it right over the green, leading to frustration all round...



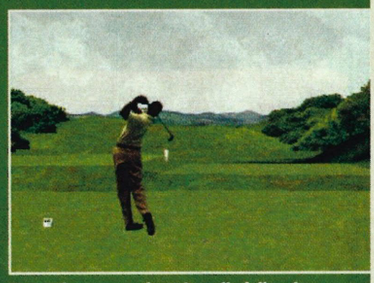
■ Chop! Oops. The ball goes flying right over the green. That won't please you

Golf Harris

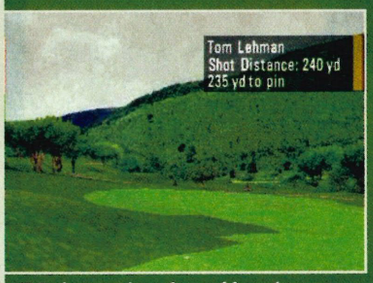
Thing is, this is plenty detailed, with a four-player mode, and with all sorts of lovingly-digitised real golfers showing their faces. And the way the ball moves around the courses isn't bad at all. It almost feels like real golf. But, sadly, the piss-poor graphics style and crappy controls mean it doesn't punch it's weight.



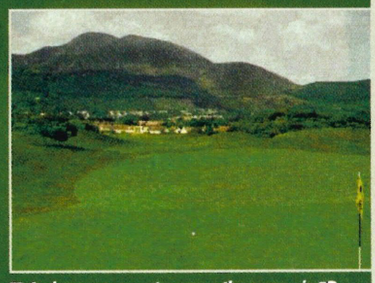
■ The way the ball moves isn't bad



■ But the camera doesn't really follow it



■ Each course is made up of four pictures



■ And you never get a sense the course is 3D

Drab, ugly, irritating and crap. There's plenty of better golf titles waiting to soak up your cash. Don't even think of wasting your time on this sorry effort. **Rob**

PlayStation plus

RATED 45%

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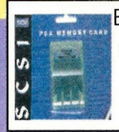
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■**OUT** JULY ■**BY** SONY ■**COSTS** £39.99 ■**PLAYERS** 1-4 ■**COMPATIBILITIES** JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD, DUAL SHOCK PAD, MULTITAP

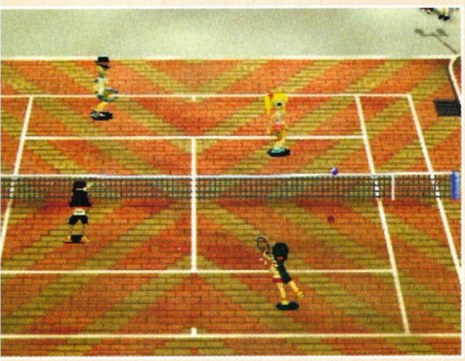
ANNA KOURNIKOVA'S SMASH COURT TENNIS

Anna K in the UK: it's the tennis game all self-respecting leg men must own!

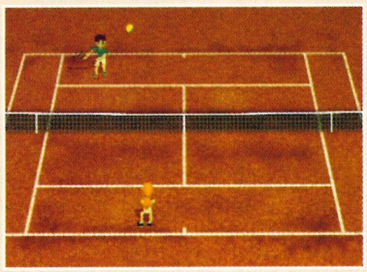
Another PlayStation classic gets the sequel treatment. But this time they've put a lovely lady on the box. Well, that's 10% added to the score already. But the good news is, the rest of the game's pretty hot to trot too. Observe.

Return fire

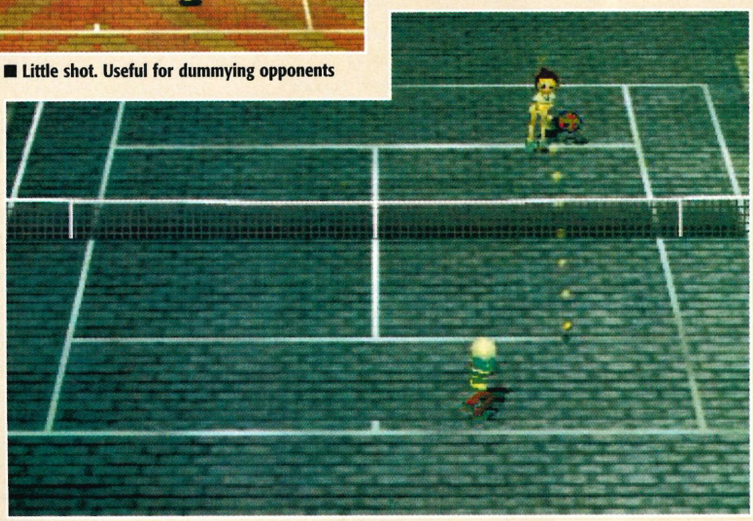
Controls are pretty simple. You can opt for a Joe Average shot, a souped-up power-shot, a lob, or a real atomic smash. It's simple to get the ball thwocking to and fro in a basic way, and soon you'll be doing stuff like trick shots, and dummies and all. Lots of gaming meat.



■ Little shot. Useful for dummying opponents



■ Lob. Dangerous, as it leaves you wide open



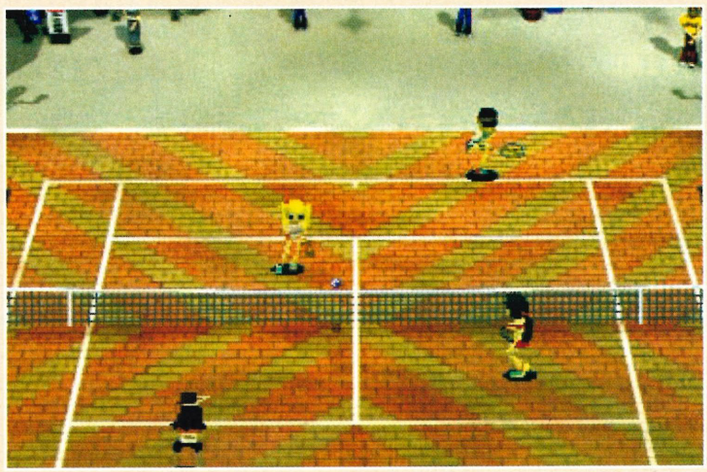
■ Forehand über-smash. Plenty of power. Knocks 'em dead every time



■ Anna Kournikova: looking good on 40 cheeseburgers a day

Double trouble

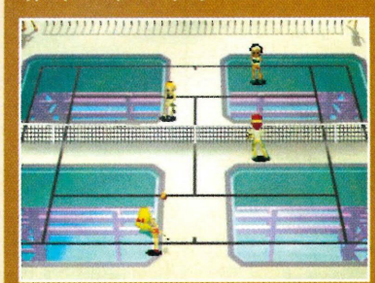
Where this game really comes into its own is in multiplayer. Get four of you clustered round the 'Station for a doubles match, and it's pure class. Most co-operative sports games tend not to work 'cos there's too much opportunity for your mates to be ball-greedy, but here, playing doubles matches is a peach.



■ Smash Court Tennis really works its mojo in multiplayer. We like it a lot

Wossitloike?

From the screenshots and level of cuteness you're probably guessing this ain't a full-on sim-type affair. You'd be right. Smash Court's put the emphasis on arcade-type pick-up-and-play-ness, with controls set for Fun Factor Ten. Fine by us.



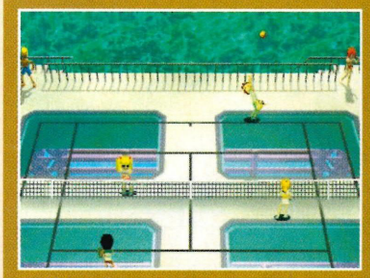
■ Hang on, this doesn't look 'serious'



■ It's not supposed to be 'fun' is it?

Deeper and deeper

There's room at the inn for everybody from doofuses to drop-dead forehand smash masters. For instance, you can choose either to auto-serve, which'll get you a not-bad not-great serve, or try timing a power-shot to leave 'em standing. Nice.



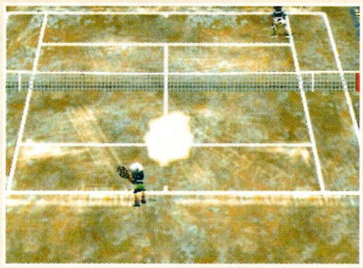
■ Either go for an easy-peasy auto-serve



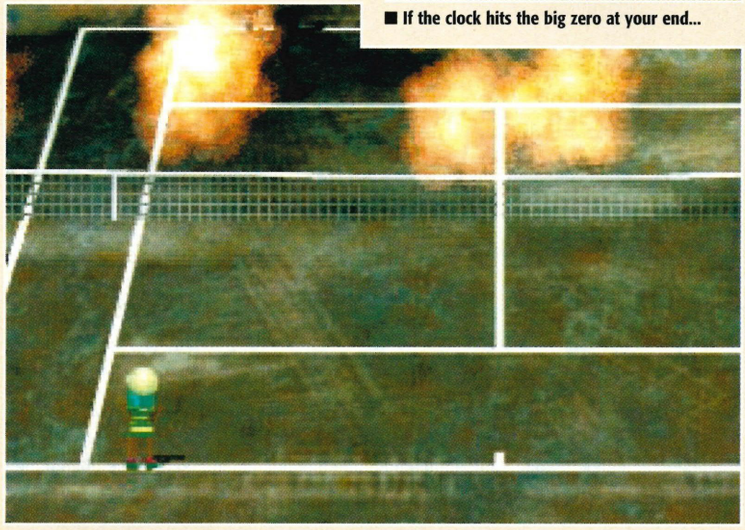
■ Or try and wow 'em with a power-shot

Orange deuce

Comedy mode alert. There's a bomb mode on here. What you do is choose five players, who head out onto the court one at a time to try and blow up your mate's players. The idea is to keep the ball moving till the timer hits zero. Whoever has it is dead. Next up! And yes, it is as flash-in-the-pan as comedy modes tend to be. Game of Tekken Ball, anyone? No?



■ If the clock hits the big zero at your end...



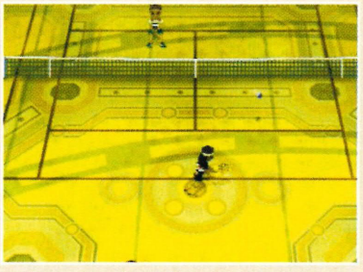
■ It's curtains for you, sunshine. As comedy modes go, this ain't at all bad

Oi! Kournikova!

Thing about this effort is, although we've been mighty nice about it, it still is just the old Smash Court with an all-new leggy lovely on the box. The graphics won't exactly have your PlayStation groaning under the strain, and the gamespeed's still pretty average. But the gameplay's all there, so you could do a lot worse, believe us...



■ Cuteness alert. And old-looking-graphics alert



■ But as a two-player effort, this is a blast

Tennis games have never really set our world on fire, but this little number's slick, smooth and loaded with playability. It's a touch ugly, but plays like a dream. Rob

PlayStation plus

RATED 89%

■ **OUT** NOW ■ **BY** ELECTRONIC ARTS ■ **COSTS** £39.99 ■ **PLAYERS** 1-2
■ **COMPATIBILITIES** JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD, DUAL SHOCK PAD

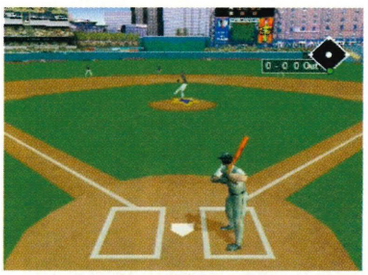
TRIPLE PLAY 2000

More off-cuts from the land of the Yank.

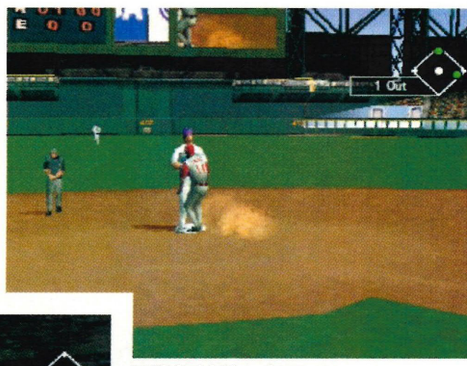
It's been a damn long time since anybody had the gall to release a 'Station baseball game this side of the pond. Read our lips. We. Don't. Like. Baseball. Over. Here. Funny thing is, this effort's kind of all right, but we didn't admit that, OK?

Hit hard

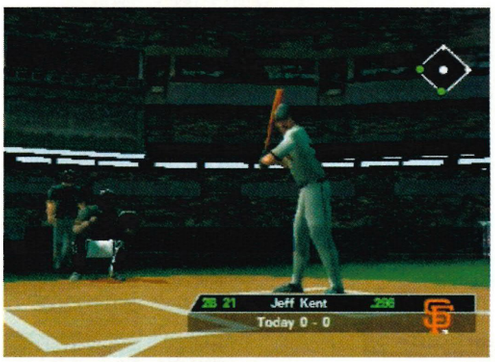
Simple? Oh yes. It basically boils down to you picking a pitch, and the other bloke deciding whether to go for it, and how hard to hit it. All the rounders-esque running between so-called 'bases' is just done by tapping the ⊗ button. And the same goes for the fielding. Playable, yes. Interesting? For a while, yes. Only for a while, mind.



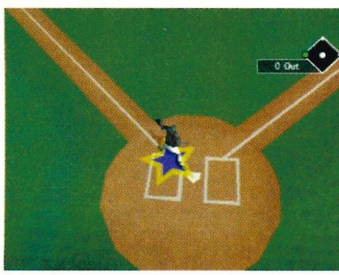
■ The action's in the pitcher and batter standoffs



■ Hit it right for a home run



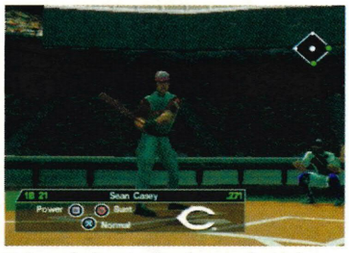
■ And go for too many trick pitches and you're gone



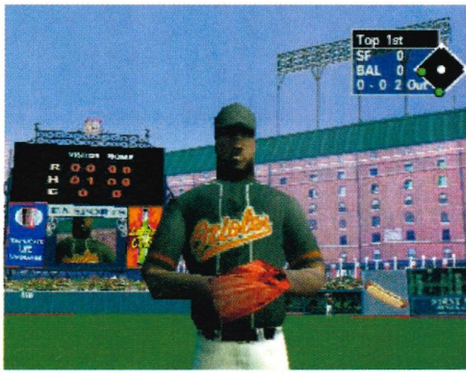
■ Hit it wrong to be caught out

Something lacking

It's fairly easy to get into. Just think of it as rounders played by fat people. But it lacks the end-to-end flowing playability of a lot of sports sims. If you're not into baseball, don't even consider buying this. If you are, you could do a lot worse.



■ Gameplay's not as hands-on as footy sims



■ But if you're into baseball, it'll probably keep you amused for a goodly time

Not going to turn massive droves of Brits into baseball nuts, but slick enough in its own way. A bit stop-start-y to play, but that kind of goes with the territory. Rob

PlayStation plus

RATED 79%

■ **OUT** JUNE ■ **BY** VIRGIN ■ **COSTS** £39.99 ■ **PLAYERS** 1-5
■ **COMPATIBILITIES** JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD, MULTITAP

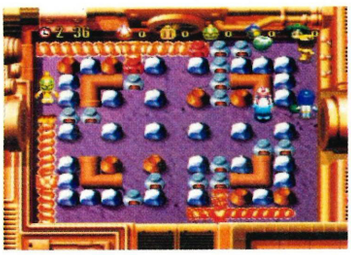
BOMBERMAN

Ancient action/strategy game makes it to the 'Station. We're not impressed...

Games involving death, destruction and blowing stuff up are usually way cool. But when it comes to cute Jap cartoon characters chucking explosive devices around colourful 2D maps, it suddenly loses its appeal. Odd that...

How it works

It's dead simple. You guide your little geeza around the maze-like levels, dropping bombs to clear routes and blow up your opponents. Collect power-ups to increase your bomb-dropping capabilities, boost your speed and gain extra lives. The bomberman to survive the longest wins. It's not rocket science and it's not much fun either.



■ Drop a bomb to clear yourself a path...



■ Then go find one of your opponents...



■ Lay one of your bombs right at his feet...



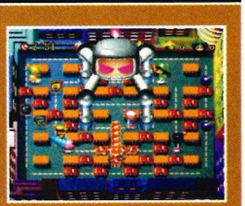
■ Tick, tick, tick, BOOM! You get the idea?

Play yer mates

The only bit worth bothering with here is the multiplayer. You and four mates run around the screen in an insanely fast knockout match blasting the crap out of everything you see. Last man standing wins. Top laff, but worth 40 notes? No.



■ If you've got a multitap and a ton of pads



■ You can have a mental multiplayer game...



■ But once your mates clear off, it's not so great

Rent it Bomberman's great for post-pub multiplayer action, but it's not so hot in solo mode. Rent it for a weekend, but think carefully before buying. **Lee**

PlayStation plus RATED 65%

■ **OUT** NOW ■ **BY** SONY ■ **COSTS** £39.99 ■ **PLAYERS** 1-2
■ **COMPATIBILITIES** JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD, DUAL SHOCK PAD

X-GAMES PRO BOARDERS

Just what you wanted for the summer months... ANOTHER winter sports game!

PlayStation snowboarding games always lack a certain something. They're either pug-ugly, or clunky and unplayable beyond belief. So which is X-Games Pro Boarder going to be? Bad news, kids. It's a bit of both...

Authenticity to go

There are eight top snowboarders in here to choose from, all with signature tricks. Since the closest most of us'll get to the slopes is watching music vids, it's dubious whether this feature will turn your crank. But at least it means a variety of different trick styles.



■ Shannon Dunn. Especially slick on the halfpipe



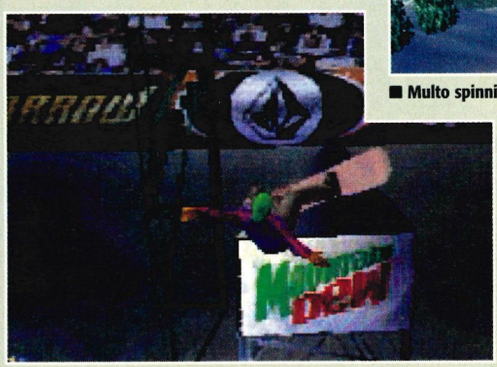
■ Todd Richards. Trust us, this bloke's hotter than hot at the Divebomb Indy

The trickest tricks

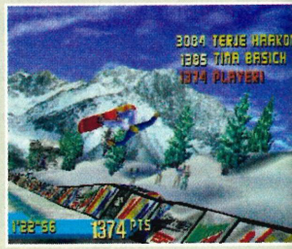
Tricks. They make the snowboarding world go round. And X-Games isn't short of them. The tricks system goes like this: hold down a button for power, release just as you go over the edge, then hold directional buttons and another key to do cunning flips.



■ Multo spinning action. High points guaranteed



■ The stadium quarter pipe. The short cut to biiig air



■ Halfpipe. Time for big points

Many ways to play

One thing this doesn't lack is ways to play. We've got (deep breath) a halfpipe mode, a stadium stunt mode, a straight-up racing game, a freestyle al fresco stunting mode, a Slopestyle rail-sliding mode and a Freeride mode. Every conceivable flavour of snowboarding is in here. Not all of 'em are fun, but still...



■ Boarder cross. Not the funnest thing ever



■ Half-pipe. Quite a larf, actually



■ Straight race. Fairly dull, with pants graphics

The game

The snowboarders look alright. The snow looks frankly crap. And it doesn't look like you're actually boarding on it. At all. The handling's nothing special: it's not bad, but it doesn't really give a feel of steep slope sliding. And the tricks? Well, they're better than in some 'boarding efforts, but they never really blow you away...



■ The snow. Call us picky and anal, but it just doesn't look quite right

By no means offensively crap. But it never really rises above lukewarm. It looks kind of alright. It plays kind of alright. Borrow it off a mate. If you're VERY bored. **Rob**

PlayStation plus

RATED 69%

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■ **OUT** NOW ■ **BY** KONAMI ■ **COSTS** £39.99 ■ **PLAYERS** 1-2
■ **COMPATIBILITIES** JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD, DUAL SHOCK

TRAP RUNNER

Trap Runner? Crap Runner, more like...

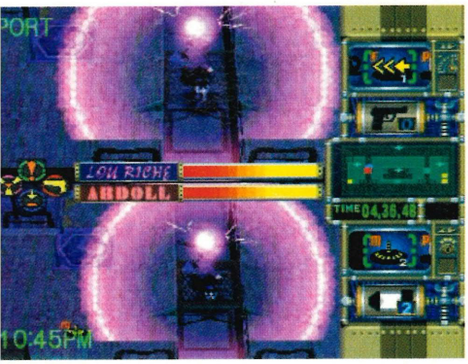
You're a little bloke. You run around maze-type arenas planting mines and rigging up huge traps for another similar little bloke. While shooting at him. But if you're expecting excitement, you've come to the wrong trap-filled arena, chum....

So what's the big idea?

This, basically. You choose from a range of eight blokes, each with different guns and bombs. You and another bloke then race around little arenas filled with walkways and stuff, planting traps, blundering into the other fellas, and occasionally pausing to shoot or throw left hooks at the other bloke. Until one of you's dead. Simple, no?



■ Leave mines around for t'other bloke to walk over. That'll shock the breakfast out of 'em



■ Use heatseeking: but take cover or you're toast



■ Or just go basic, and shoot the hell out of them

What went wrong

For a start, it's kind of easy. And it's also far, far too slow. Even the range of traps and stuff you get aren't that interesting. And on a fairly basic level, it just doesn't work: in either one or two player, you can see the other bloke's screen all the time. So you can see where their traps are going. So it's easy to avoid them. Oops.



■ The bombs you get just aren't interesting enough to cut it

There's some semi-nice ideas in here, but it's all just a bit slow, dull and rubbish. Maybe there'll be a super-cool trap game sometime. But this ain't it. No siree. **Rob**

PlayStation plus
RATED 50%

■ **OUT** JUNE ■ **BY** INFOGRAMES ■ **COSTS** £39.99 ■ **PLAYERS** 1-2
■ **COMPATIBILITIES** JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD

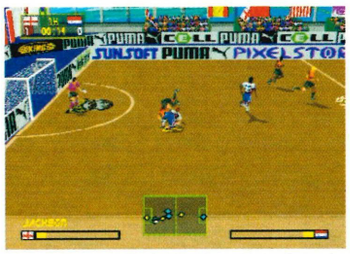
PUMA STREET SOCCER

Surprise, surprise. Here comes another sub-standard football game

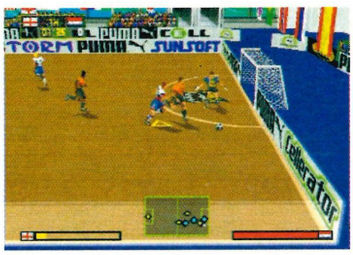
They make trainers that are not exactly, shall we say, 'cutting edge'. So how do they shape up in the cutting edge world of 'Station footy? Can they kick it with the big boys, or will they suffer a drubbing at the hands of the opposition?

What's da big idea?

Puma seem to think you'll pay £40 for the privilege of playing four-a-side footy in a host of unusual locations, like airports and streets. They think you'll whimper in soccer-fuelled ecstasy at the sheer simplicity and 'streetness' of it all. And you would if it was any good. But it isn't. Get a grip boys, no one's gonna fall for that. Are they?



■ Can you spot the ball? We can't. And punch is if we're wrong, but isn't that the point?

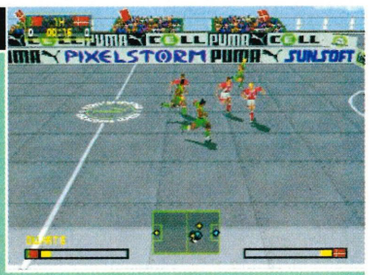


■ Believe it or not, this is set in an airport, but is that a selling point? Like, can you tell?

An own goal

So what's so wrong with it? Well, for a start the players look basic and move in a rather shifty and stilted manner. Then there are only six playing areas, and although they're set in quirky locations the playing areas are pretty much the same in all of them.

Add to this mess the completely unknown players and the minimum amount of playing modes, plus a ropey control system and you're looking at an utter waste of time and money. Avoid at all costs, we say.



■ Who is this man?



■ Thanks to a cruddy control system it's very difficult to score goals, which is annoying



■ Super power-ups, it's a football game

Not much cop. It's confusing to play, lacking in moves and variety. If it's a five-a-side kickabout you yearn, check out FIFA: Road to World Cup, it's much better. So there. **Rich**

PlayStation plus
RATED 45%

■ **OUT** MAY ■ **BY** SONY ■ **COSTS** £19.99 ■ **PLAYERS** 1 ■ **COMPATIBILITIES** JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD

FINAL FANTASY VII

Three discs for twenty nicker. A bargain? Well... maybe...

It's a big, plodding fantasy role-playing epic. And if you're already thinking 'I'd best turn the page then', you're probably not wrong. This is the biggest game on the 'Station. It's one of the best-looking. But it's not to everybody's taste.

What you does

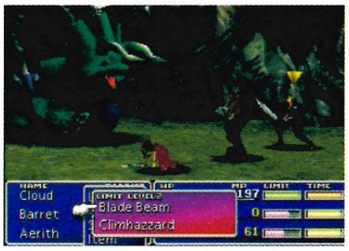
You've got to explore a huge, huge game world, bit by bit, performing little tasks that gradually add together into one huge quest. You move a group of blokes on maps, occasionally taking time-outs for turn-based fights or little chats with one of the game's thousands of characters. You pick up equipment. You learn skills.



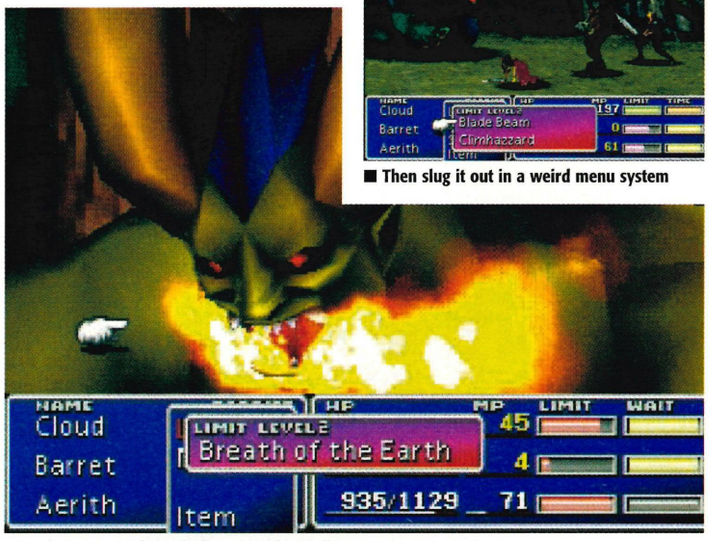
■ Wander around, visiting towns an' stuff



■ Perform sub-quests, speak to odd little men



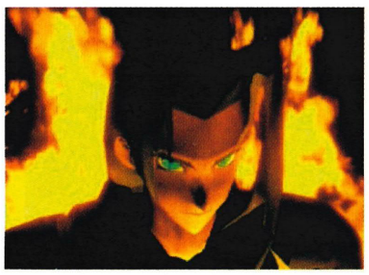
■ Then slug it out in a weird menu system



■ And as you get through the game, the spells you use get VERY impressive

Deeper and deeper

There's amazing depth here: a real sense of exploration, loads of characters, a mind-scramblingly epic plot, and loads of eye-candy-heavy magic action. Games don't clock in any bigger. If you've got time on your hands, this'll kill all you've got. And more.



■ This bad man is destroying magical Materia



■ But you and your chums want to stop him

It's the night for fighting

In between all the exploring and talking, there's a never-ending mass of brightly-coloured mutants queueing up to ruck with your blokes. The fights are big, special-attacks-a-flashing, magic-blasts-a-popping affairs. But it's all turn-based, so it's slow. And random. And a bit boring. Nice to look at, yup. To play, not so nice.



■ You choose from a menu of attacks



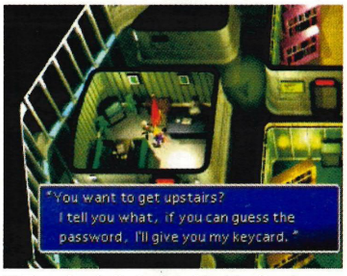
■ Then the enemy takes his turn. Ouch



■ You can unleash specials like this

Oi! Booooorrring!

Thing is, games are meant to be, like, entertainment. And unless you really dig the idea of blokes called stuff like Sephiroth sapping the earth's magical energy and telling you about it onscreen in the most long-winded way possible, you may find Final Fantasy a touch indigestible. Here be mucho poorly-translated geekery. You been warned.



■ There is a hell of a lot of text to digest. Zoiks! And it ain't exactly sparkling prose



■ Trust us, after a while you WILL get bored of reading about stuff onscreen

Platinum This is a monster of a game. But be warned. It's a bit slow. It can be boring. But if you want to lose 100 hours of your life, go ahead... **Rob**

PlayStation plus **RATED 86%**

■ **OUT** NOW ■ **BY** SONY ■ **COSTS** £19.99 ■ **PLAYERS** 1-2 ■ **COMPATIBILITIES** JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD, DUAL SHOCK PAD

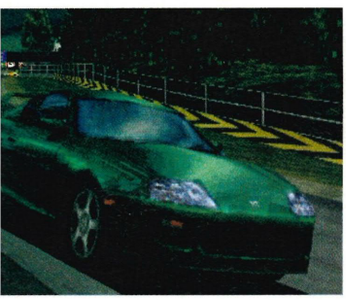
GRAN TURISMO

The racing game gold standard just turned Platinum. Wake up. Time to buy...

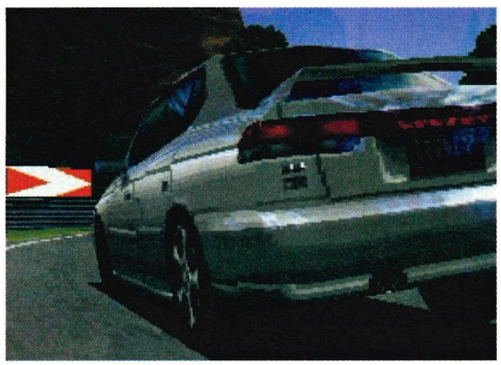
The most realistic driving game ever. No fooling. It's got the looks, it's got the handling, it's got the cars. It's even got the driving tests, for Chrissake. GT's maybe too in-depth for some tastes, but if you like cars, you NEED this game...

Platinum frenzy!

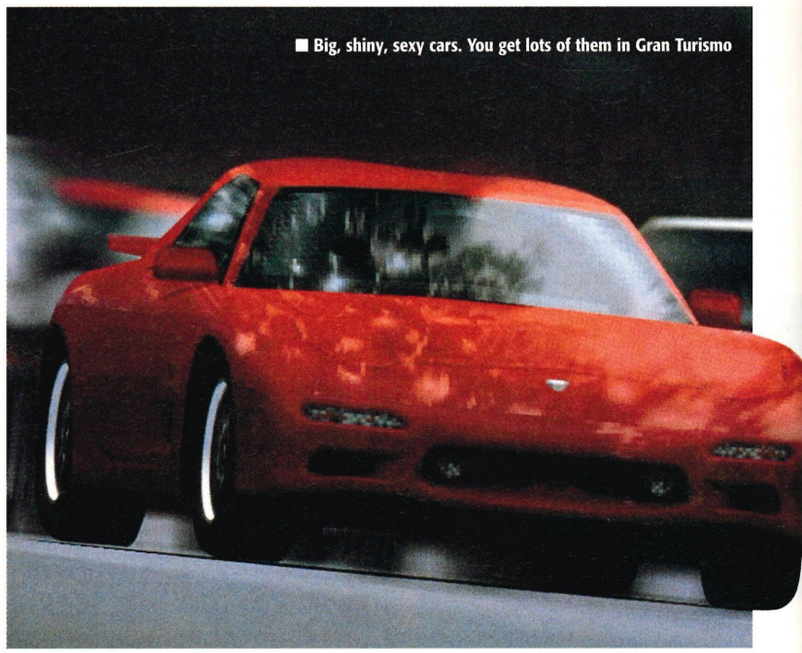
Time is cruel to games. Most of the Platinum titles we've reviewed, we usually have to start with 'Yeah, it looks crap, but...' Not here. There are no scratches on GT's paintwork. A year later, the only thing that's even come close to looking this good has been Ridge Racer 4.



■ The replay mode's dazzling



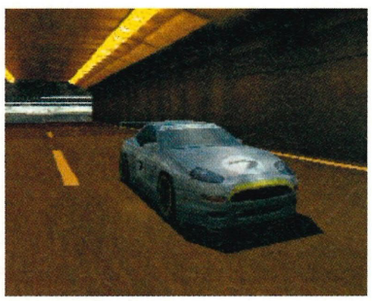
■ You'll even be looking forward to the replays as you race



■ Big, shiny, sexy cars. You get lots of them in Gran Turismo



■ In-game visuals are scorchio into the bargain



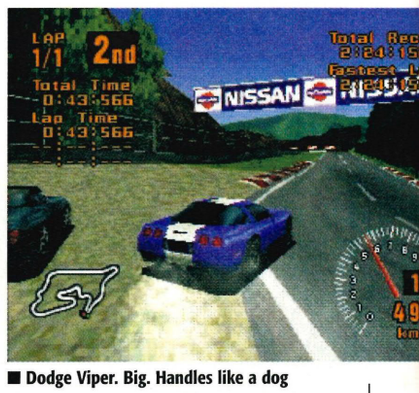
■ Just watch that factory-tuned beast go

Plenty o' motors

If you're partial to a bit of big car action, you'll flip when you see the motors you get to fiddle with in GT. There are 150 cars to get in GT, from tiny Honda Civics to big hulking Chevrolets. Some of 'em you'll get as prizes for winning leagues. The rest you'll have to save up prize money to buy.



■ Chevrolet Corvette. Big. American. Chunky



■ Dodge Viper. Big. Handles like a dog

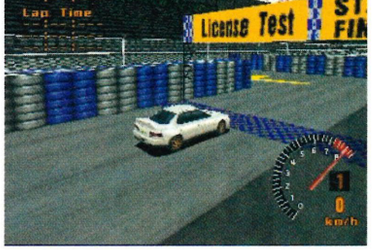


■ There's even estate cars in there. Good for the family men among you...

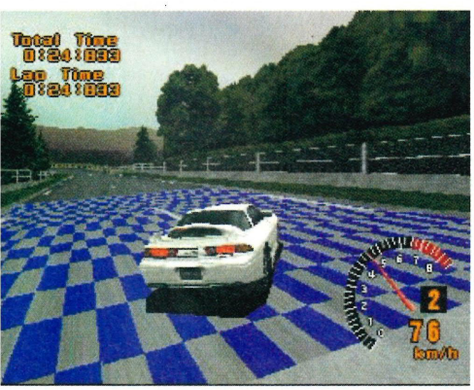
Licences

To get to compete in the later races, you've got to pass a series of increasingly hard license tests. You'll need to to perfect your cornering, braking, and other general motor functions to pass.

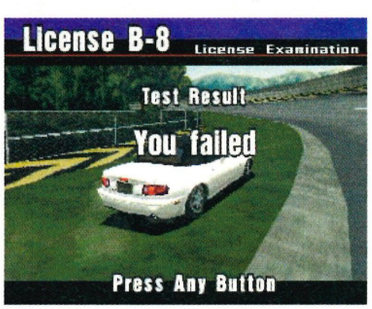
Only trouble in paradise is, the licences are not easy. You wouldn't believe the number of letters we've had from poor sods who can't crack the last one, the International 'A' licence...



■ The first licence. Practice braking an' stuff



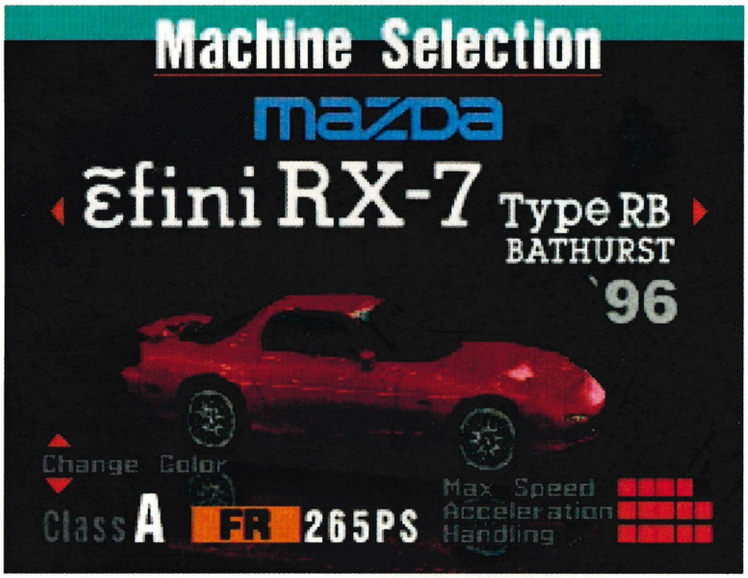
■ The International A. Very long races...



■ And if you slip up once, it's adios muchacho

Tinker, tailor

You can change everything about your motor. And we mean everything. Gear ratios, exhaust sprockets, wheel angles. If it's small, complex-sounding and changes the car's performance in some tiny way, you'll be able to tinker with or upgrade it to your heart's content. This will make car buffs very happy.



■ How a Mazda RX7 rolls off the production line... and right into your ever-expanding garage

Slightly easier...

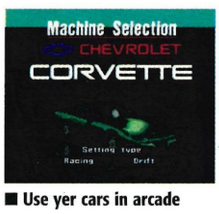
For the hard-of-steering, there's a slightly-easier arcade mode. You can play through a handful of races on 'Easy', 'Normal' and 'Hard' to win bonus cars, and special modes. What's good about the arcade mode is that it's Very Fast Indeed. But even arcade mode's a lot less digestible difficulty-wise than your average 'Station racer.



■ Do well and you can win stuff like a new hi-res mode



■ The two-player's very classy in arcade mode



■ Use yer cars in arcade



■ But sadly, there's only two of you. Not enough bumping

Race



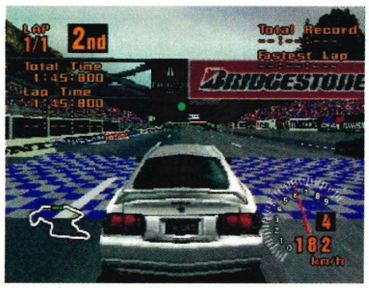
As you progress, you'll work through loads of different leagues, and special races like rear-wheel-drive challenges. There's no set path through the game and you can basically choose what you drive and where you race. And there are enough races and cool cars to keep you busy for many moons. Coolio.

■ These are just a few of the races you can take part in

Your cuppa?

Now a word of warning. If big motors and everything car-related don't get you juiced just thinking about them, you might not find GT to your taste.

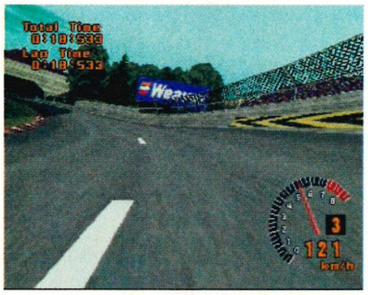
Realism is this game's strong suit, and that means difficult-to-get-to-grips-with handling and an insanely high level of attention to detail. Some folks find it just a tad TOO realistic, so if you're not a bonzo car fiend, tread carefully...



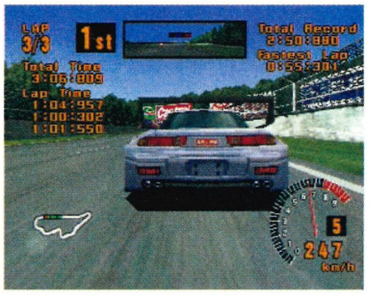
■ Everything's in here: unlimited tune-up options



■ Hundreds of different motors to get your mitts on in here...



■ Stupidly difficult driving tests



■ You'll either love it or feel bad for not loving it

Stuck?

So you've done the sensible thing and got Gran Turismo bought. But – D'oh! – you're already stuck. Well worry not, cos on p60 of this very issue you'll find a full guide to all the tough bits of the game. Don't thank us...

winner As racing sims go, this is the big daddy. Maybe a touch lacking in pick-up-and-play charm, but for realism and depth, it's never been bettered. **Rob**

PlayStation plus RATED 93%

■ **OUT** NOW ■ **BY** SONY ■ **COSTS** £19.99 ■ **PLAYERS** 1 ■ **COMPATIBILITIES** JOYPAD, MEMORY CARD

CRASH BANDICOOT 2

Aussie rodent's back for a second bite of the PlayStation cherry Platinum-style...

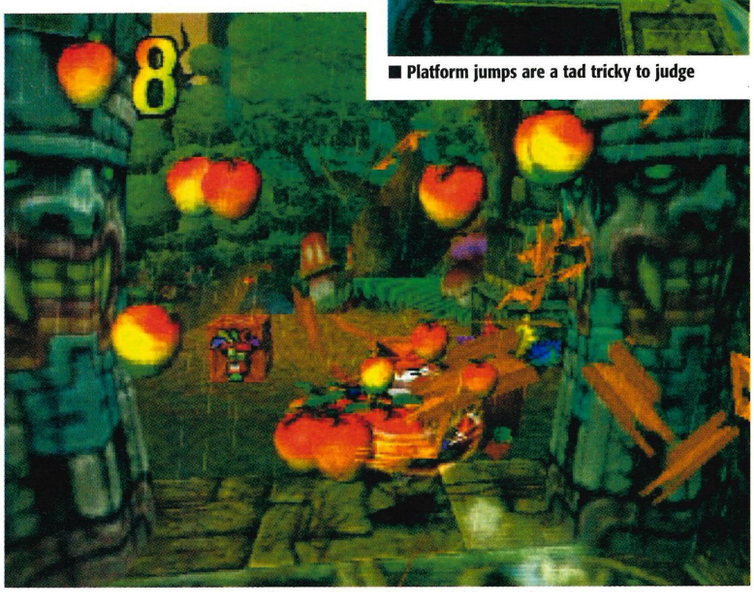
Evil Dr Cortex is back. The mad moustachioed scientist has come out of retirement to exact a painful revenge on Crash Bandicoot's sorry ass. Cue plenty of apple-snaffling, hole-leapin' platform action. Not bad for 20 quid.

Gameplay

It's not vastly different from Crash One. You've gotta guide our little orange marsupial chum through level after level of tricky jumps, weird creatures and ginormous great boulders. Since getting killed every few seconds is par for the course here, collecting apples to get extra lives is also a good idea. It's not brain surgery but it passes the time easy enough.



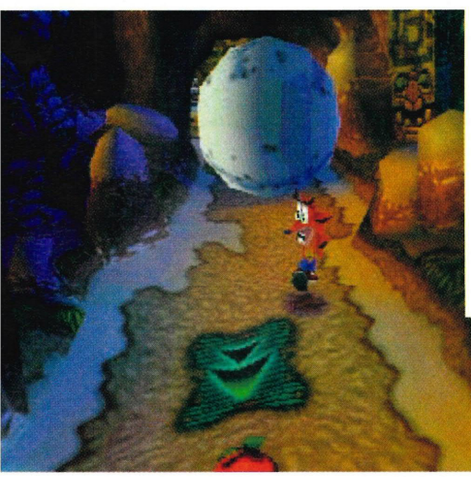
■ Platform jumps are a tad tricky to judge



■ Smashing through crates and snaffling apples are the meat 'n' bones of Crash 2. We like...

Looking mighty fine

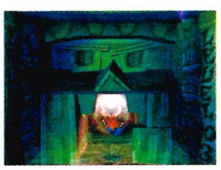
Crash numero dos has been around for a while now, but it's still head and shoulders above the rest of the competition in the eye candy department. The super-slick levels are colourful and varied, the flashy special effects will dampen your pants and ol' Crash himself is looking better than ever. You're gonna be seriously impressed. Trust us.



■ It's getting on a bit now, but Crash 2 still looks the business



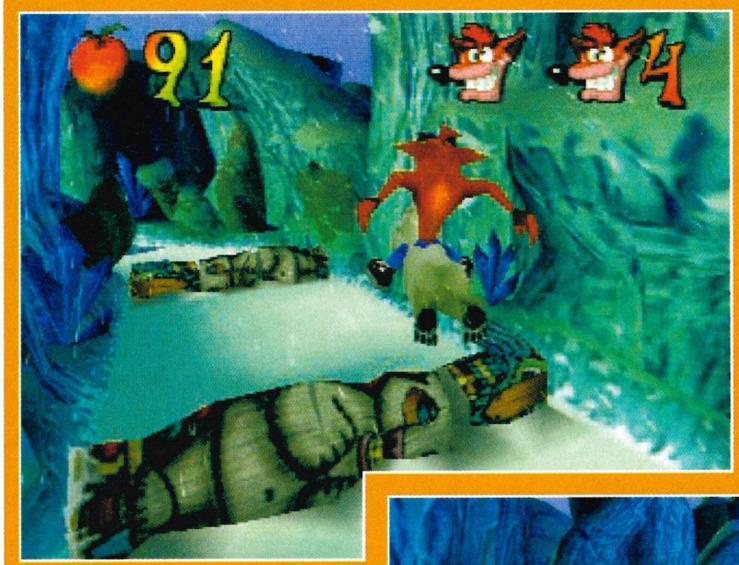
■ The special effects'll blow you away



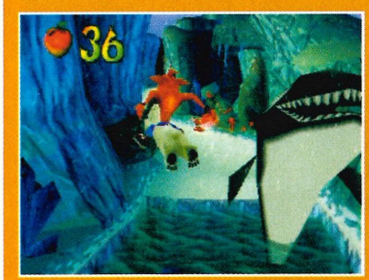
■ Looks goyjush, dunnit?

He's got da moves

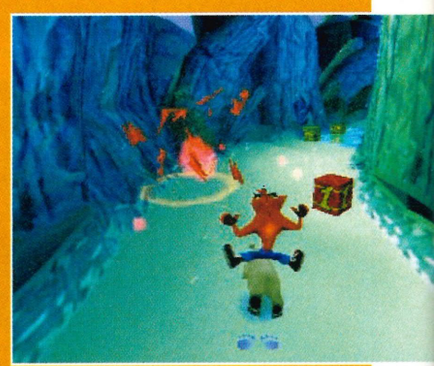
For the second game, Crash has gone and got himself a load of new moves. He can turn his hand to crawling, sliding, surfing and bear riding, as well as his speciality 500-metre hurdle over penguin and vulture fences. We like...



■ Crash takes to bear-riding for this level



■ Polar bear-eating killer whales, eh? Weird



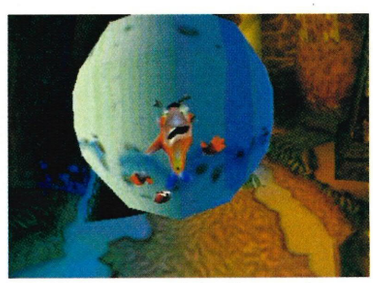
■ It's not quite as varied as Crash 3, but you can't go far wrong for 20 quid, can you?

Test of time

It's been 18 months since Crash Bandicoot 2 first graced our 'Stations and we've gotta admit it, we were hooked. But what about a year-and-a-half down the line? Well, it's stood the test of time better than most Platinum games. It's still lip-smacking to look at, it's chocka with novel ideas and it's a blast to play. Can't say fairer than that.



■ It still a good laff to play after all this time



■ The Indiana Jones-style boulder scenario

Platinum **Rampantly playable platform gubbins that's easy to pick up, but difficult to put down. It's totally goyjush and a bargain at 20 notes. Lee**

PlayStation plus **RATED 87%**

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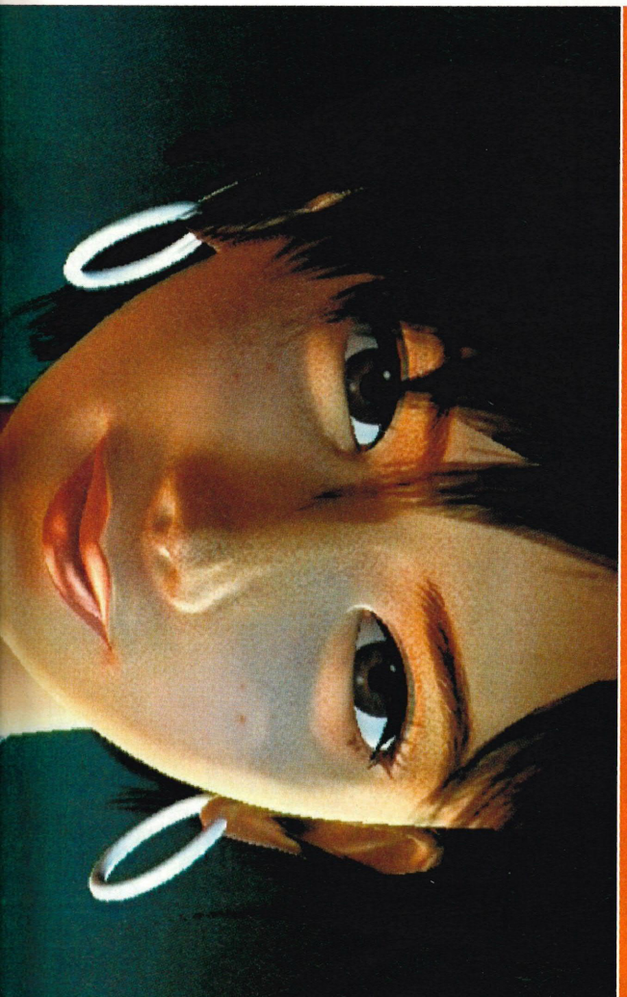
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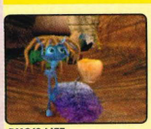
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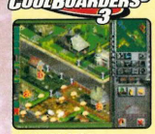
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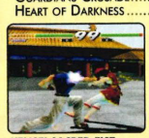




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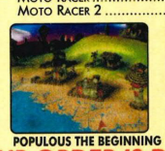


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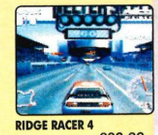


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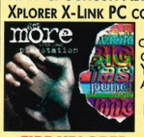
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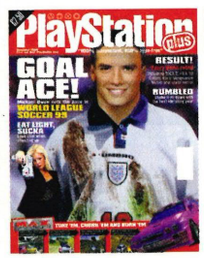
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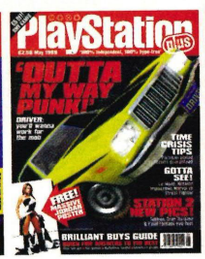
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HOW WE RATE STUFF

91-100%	Essential play
81-90%	Almost classic
71-80%	Good, not great
61-70%	Only okay
51-60%	Just toss
0-50%	Total toss

winner — A great game (91% plus) you've just got to play.

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This game is crap. Avoid like the plague **ARSE**

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What it's called
The games are listed alphabetically

How we scored it
See ratings key above

How many players
Is it a one-player or great with mates?

How much it costs
The recommended retail price, although you could find it cheaper

Extra information
We'll tell you exactly what we think of each game, plus we'll point out any gadgets it uses such as the link-up or multitap. Virtually all the games work with the Dual Shock and memory card, but we'll let you know if it uses 'em well.

plus

p104 The best puzzle games
The best brain-hurty games for your cash

p105 The best sports games
Armchair athletes on your marks

p108 Why? Answers to your burning questions
The questions you're always asking answered at last

p109 Platinum
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p110 Gear
Old tat fit for the junk or gear you NEED? Here's the lowdown

p111 Cheap thrills
Every month we look for bargains so you don't have to

p112 The games we're looking foward to
Why we start drooling every time their names are mentioned

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What are they? What do they do? All is explained



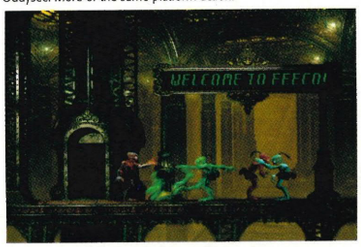
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The best games

All Games Rated between 71%-100%

A

Abe's Exoddus 91%
■ **Price** £44.99 ■ **Players** 1-2
Dead playable sequel to the now-cheapo Abe's Oddysee. More of the same platform action. winner



A Bug's Life 70%
■ **Price** £39.99 ■ **Players** 1
Looks nice enough, plays OK. But this explore 'em up based on the Disney film is hardly a showstopper.

Actua Golf 71%
■ **Price** £39.99 ■ **Players** 1-4
This oldster still plays OK but looks tossy compared to newer clubbers. For more options try...

Actua Golf 2 75%
■ **Price** £39.99 ■ **Players** 1-4
It's got some new courses and a fresh lick of paint, but it still plays the same. Not bad, just not great.

Actua Golf 3 85%
■ **Price** £39.99 ■ **Players** 1-4
The best golf game around, we reckon, mainly because it's well realistic when you play with the Dual Shock pad.

Actua Ice Hockey 85%
■ **Price** £39.99 ■ **Players** 1-4
Nifty pick-up-'n'-play hockey sim which boats all the usual teams and moves. Uses multitap.

Actua Soccer 2 73%
■ **Price** £44.99 ■ **Players** 1-4
Better looking than the Platinum original but still not easy to play. Uses multitap and analogue pad. Rent it

Actua Soccer 3 79%
■ **Price** £44.99 ■ **Players** 1-4
Better, but still not as flowing or fun as ISS Pro 98. Compatible with multitap.

Actua Tennis 74%
■ **Price** £39.99 ■ **Players** 1-2
Average to look at but not bad to knock around. Better with the Dual Shock but still no ace.

Agile Warrior 83%
■ **Price** £39.99 ■ **Players** 1
Aircraft shooty game that's easy to play but gets boring too soon. Still, not that bad.

Air Combat 2 85%
■ **Price** £34.99 ■ **Players** 1
Good-looking flight sim with loadsa missions and a stack of planes to choose from. Use Dual Shock for best results.

Akuji the Heartless 82%
■ **Price** £39.99 ■ **Players** 1
Run around Tomb Raider-stylee, bagging things with Black Magic. Not enough gore to be great. Uses Dual Shock.

AVI Evolution Global 73%
■ **Price** £44.99 ■ **Players** 1
Looks like a yawnsome strategy thang but get into this baby and you'll have fun building empires. Mouse compatible.

All Star Tennis 73%
■ **Price** £39.99 ■ **Players** 1-2
Slightly soiled looks don't spoil this quite tasty racket-a-thon. Use Dual Shock pad. Rent it

Alone in the Dark 71%
■ **Price** £39.99 ■ **Players** 1
Resident Evil-style horror adventure with trashy graphics and naff all gore. Gameplay's all right, though.

Alundra 75%
■ **Price** £39.99 ■ **Players** 1
Long-winded adventure which looks rubbish but is pretty satisfying if you stick it out. Good for beginners.

Apocalypse 88%
■ **Price** £39.99 ■ **Players** 1
Bruce Willis pumps it up in this balls-out sci-fi blaster. It's a bit samey but still brilliant. Dual Shock.

Armoured Core 74%
■ **Price** £34.99 ■ **Players** 1-2
Robot blasting game which is a bit short in one-player but a good laugh against a mate.

Assault 84%
■ **Price** £39.99 ■ **Players** 1-2
Full-on shoot 'em up where the killing just doesn't stop. Big weapons and even bigger bad guys, we like this.

B

Baby Universe 75%
■ **Price** £29.99 ■ **Players** 1
This psychedelic lightshow more a mind-bending experience than a game. Great for late night chill seshes.

Ballblazer Champions 75%
■ **Price** £44.99 ■ **Players** 1-2
Future sport sim where two hover cars must shoot the plasma ball at the opponent's holo-goal. Weird.

Batman & Robin 73%
■ **Price** £39.99 ■ **Players** 1
A bit like Tomb Raider in Gotham City, this is an ambitious but sadly flawed take on the Batman theme.

Bedlam 78%
■ **Price** £44.99 ■ **Players** 1-2
Tactical robot blaster where you've really gotta use the mouse to get the most out of it.

Big Air 81%
■ **Price** £39.99 ■ **Players** 1-2
Snowboarding game with lots of detail let down by lengthy loading times and a lack of adrenalin. Rent it

Biofreaks 85%
■ **Price** £39.99 ■ **Players** 1-2
So it's no Tekken 3, but this thumper's got some wicked moves and some of the coolest effects we've seen, including flying fighters!

Black Dawn 81%
■ **Price** £44.99 ■ **Players** 1
This sequel to Agile Warrior offers more of the same aircraft shooty stuff. Boasts nicer graphics though.

Blast Radius 83%
■ **Price** £44.99 ■ **Players** 1-2
Space-based shoot 'em up that's best with Dual Shock. Ultimately lacks variety.

Blam! Machinehead 84%
■ **Price** £44.99 ■ **Players** 1
Hard to get into but work out this tough 3D blaster and you'll be zapping bad guys for hours.

Blazing Dragons 72%
■ **Price** £44.99 ■ **Players** 1
Graphic adventure with mucho laughs and comedy voiceovers. Too much like hard work though, we reckon.

Bloody Roar 90%
■ **Price** £39.99 ■ **Players** 1-2
Looks lush, plays fast and kicks like a mule. Not the best fighter but not far off. Go on, tuck in...

Bloody Roar 2 91%
■ **Price** £39.99 ■ **Players** 1-2
We still love the idea of animals scrapping. And this sequel is even better than the first. Bonus! winner



B-Movie 79%
■ **Price** £39.99 ■ **Players** 1
Tongue-in-cheek blast 'em up where UFOs invade Earth to go cow rustling. Way, way out there... Rent it

Bomberman World 83%
■ **Price** £34.99 ■ **Players** 1-4
Stick in a multitap and this is bombastic blasting for four players. Not so hot as a one-player though.

Breath of Fire III 84%
■ **Price** £39.99 ■ **Players** 1
Cutesy role-playing epic which'll keep you hooked for ages. Bit slow for some, though.

Brian Lara Cricket 88%
■ **Price** £44.99 ■ **Players** 1-4
Despite its fiddly control system, this cricket sim'll knock you for six. Great with Dual Shock pad.

Broken Sword 91%
■ **Price** £39.99 ■ **Players** 1
Superb puzzle-solving adventure. (N.B It also comes bundled with two other games on the Help! pack). winner

Broken Sword 2 91%
■ **Price** £34.99 ■ **Players** 1
More of the same, but still smart. Guaranteed to frustrate the hell out of you. winner

Bubble Bobble Pack 84%
■ **Price** £44.99 ■ **Players** 1-2
Looks pretty naff but this is well-endowed with gameplay. Serious platform fun for one or two players.

Buggy 78%
■ **Price** £39.99 ■ **Players** 1-2
Race radio-controlled cars in this fun-for-a-while racer. Handles slightly better with the Dual Shock.

Bushido Blade 83%
■ **Price** £39.99 ■ **Players** 1-2
Samurai swordfighting game that's too realistic for its own good. Worth a try though. Rent it

Bust-a-Groove 88%
■ **Price** £39.99 ■ **Players** 1-2
Dance battle game where the winner's the guy who can pull off the smartest breakdance moves. Weird but well good.

Bust-a-Move 3 85%
■ **Price** £34.99 ■ **Players** 1-2
Bubble-bursting puzzle game that's dead easy to play but difficult to put down.

Bust-a-Move 4 80%
■ **Price** £34.99 ■ **Players** 1-2
Way too similar to the others to make it worth splashing the cash for. Try its Platinum predecessor instead.

C

Cardinal Syn 71%
■ **Price** £34.99 ■ **Players** 1-2
Average beat 'em up with swords, slick moves and some monster characters. Works with Dual Shock pad.

Castlevania 89%
■ **Price** £44.99 ■ **Players** 1
Visually it's no supermodel, but it's a well-stacked platform adventure with a classy musical score.

Circuit Breakers 80%
■ **Price** £39.99 ■ **Players** 1-4
Race anything from tiny cars to minute submarines around a load of different courses. Good with multitap and four players.

Civilisation 2 88%
■ **Price** £39.99 ■ **Players** 1
Get to play God in a historical setting. A bit like Sim City if you know what we mean. Strange, but really good.

Colin McRae Rally 95%
■ **Price** £44.99 ■ **Players** 1-2
Way cool off-road rally sim which looks blinding and plays like a babe. Get it, that's an order... winner

Colony Wars 90%
■ **Price** £44.99 ■ **Players** 1
Space-based shooter with sweet graphics and pulse-pumping gameplay. A bit samey for some.

Colony Wars Vengeance 93%
■ **Price** £44.99 ■ **Players** 1
Better sequel with planet-based battles as well as space dogfights. Use Dual Shock for best results. winner

Command & Conquer: Red Alert 91%
■ **Price** £39.99 ■ **Players** 1-2
Control your tiny army and conquer worlds in this neat strategy thang. Uses mouse and link-up. winner

Best puzzle games

Super Puzzle Fighter 2



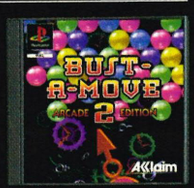
Awesomely addictive battle game which willl grab you by the nuts in one-player but really comes into its own in multiplayer. Trust us, you WILL lose days on end when you start dropping wads of gems on each other. And for added attraction you get the Street Fighter and Dark Stalkers characters punching each other's lights out. Cool or what?

Like that? Then check these out



Kula World
■ **Price:** £34.99 ■ **Players:** 1-2
Resolutely odd game where you have to control a beachball making your way around a selection of odd shapes. Sounds weird. And it is, too. Oh, and if you can do level 112 our senior writer Rob Waugh wants to know about it. It's eating hours of his life.

Bust-a-Move 2
■ **Price:** £19.99 ■ **Players:** 1-2
There are probably lost tribes of people who spend their days just playing Bust-a-Move 2. And once you've played, chances are you'll want to join them. All you do is burst bubbles with a gun. Simple? Oh yes. But man, is it addictive.



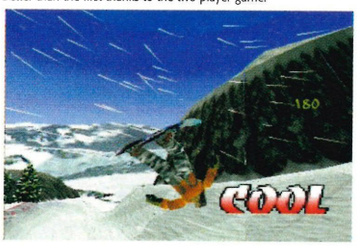
Command & Conquer: Retaliation 91%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Exactly the same to play, but with new missions, vehicles and cranked-up difficulty levels. Two-player. winner

Constructor 82%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Play God in this building site sim that's a lot more fun than it sounds. Easier to play with mouse.

Contra: Legacy of War 83%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Solid blasting action for one or two kitted-out soldiers ready to save the world. 3D mode is great with glasses supplied.

Cool Boarders 85%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
The original snowboarding thrash is still fun to play, but lack of other racers makes it a bit dull.

Cool Boarders 2 91%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Sheet hot snowboarding game made a whole lot better than the first thanks to the two-player game. winner



Cool Boarders 3 82%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-2
OK follow-up which doesn't improve on the one before, so what's the point? Uses Dual Shock.

Crash Bandicoot 2 87%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Tasty platform action with more variety, better graphics and a load of new bad guys to stomp. Good for the young 'uns.

Crash Bandicoot 3 89%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
A great laff for all, with loads of different gameplay styles and some luverly graphics. Much too short though. Dual Shock compatible.

Crime Killer 79%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Futuristic cops 'n' robbers mix of racing and shooting. Good fun for a bit, but then gets boring. Works with Dual Shock.

Crusader: No Remorse 78%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Shoot loads, explore like crazy and bag a load of bad guys. OKish lone soldier 'em up.

D

Dark Forces 80%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Star Wars first-person blast which looks old skool but plays OK. The best bit? Zapping stormtroopers.

Darklight Conflict 87%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
3D space game delivers stunning gameplay and slick visuals. Difficult to master so watch out.

Darkstalkers 3 71%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
The kind of Japanese beat 'em up only a mother could really love. And with so many other doozies available, are you gonna bother?

Dead Ball Zone 78%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-2
Hyper-violent future sports game with loadsa blood-spilling and chainsaws. Fast and frantic.

Dead or Alive 91%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Excellent fist-throwing monster boasts super-crisp graphics and well-stacked female fighters. Result! winner

Deathtrap Dungeon 85%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Tomb Raider-style adventure with scantily clad heroine, loads of big monsters and muchos sword swinging.

Descent 83%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Doom in spaceships. Fly around underground tunnels, shooting stuff. Not bad, but better in link-up two-player mode.

Descent II 78%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Few improvements so why bother? If anything this is slower than the first one. D'oh!

Devil Dice 85%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Simple but addictive puzzler that'll keep you coming back for more. And more...

Best sports games

International Track & Field

International Track and Field's been around for donkey's years. Which is a coincidence, because we've been playing it for donkey's years, too. Matter of fact, it's been around for so long it's now available on Platinum. But, you know, we just keep on hammering those buttons. Believe us, Olympics have never been so much fun.



Like that? Then check these out

Brian Lara Cricket
■ Price: £44.99 ■ Players: 1-4
Lush looks, truly authentic sounds and silky-smooth gameplay. This one bats with the best.

Actua Golf 3
■ Price: £39.99 ■ Players: 1-4
A cool dual shock control system makes this the PlayStation's top taste of silly trousers and foreplay

NHL 98
■ Price: £44.99 ■ Players: 1-8
Ice hockey doesn't yank our chain, but this NHL clone's got all the bits and pieces you need for successful puck battering.

Diablo 77%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Pretty good adventuring epic that's not too spoddy. You've gotta stick it out to get the best from this one.

Disruptor 76%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Slick-looking but ultimately yawnsome first-person fire fest. Brimming with tasty weapons though.

Diver's Dream 75%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Go on a search for buried treasure beneath the sea. Fun but flawed. Approach with care, we say...

Driver 94%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Awesome mafia driving game. Imagine a cross between Grand Theft Auto and Gran Turismo. winner



Duke Nukem 91%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Stonking corridor shoot 'em up. Colourful, funny and very violent. Two-player link game is great laffs. winner

Duke Nukem: Time to Kill 88%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Da Dook gets a Tomb Raider-style makeover. The result? A dead good fragfest. Two-player's not much cop.

E

Earthworm Jim 2 73%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Old Skool platformer doesn't take itself too seriously. Great to play, if only for a couple of hours.

ESPN Extreme Games 74%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-2
Oddball sports racing game with a handful of events and a twist of violence for good measure.

Everybody's Golf 83%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-4
A golf game that's - wait for it - fun! Big-headed clubbers take to the fairway and for once it's no snooze-a-thon.

Exhumed 86%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
One of the most challenging Doom-style blasters around. Doesn't look great but hey, gameplay's a treat.

F

Felony 11-79 81%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Choose your motor and burn up three well cool tracks. Trash things to get extra cars. Refreshing tyre-shredding stuff.

FIFA 99 75%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-8
Fairly standard footy game crammed with league teams and all the players. Look OK, doesn't play too hot.

The Fifth Element 79%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Likeable adventure based on the sci-fi smash. Lacks the pizazz to make it a true classic.

Final Doom 85%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Ultra-hard follow-up with 30 new levels but the same old weapons. Still, a good link-up laugh.

Final Fantasy VII 95%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
The biggest 'Station game ever, bursting over three CDs. It's an awesome game, but very, *very* slow. winner

Fluid 80%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1
Swim through underwater worlds to build up library of samples, then mix dance tunes. Odd.

Formula 1 97 89%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Great racing sim endowed all the proper drivers 'n' teams, plus nifty hi-res graphics. The two-player game is whiffy.

Formula Karts 75%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Kart racer that's fast, fun 'n' furious. The tracks are bit short, but otherwise an engine-revving laff.

Forsaken 87%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Zip through tight corridors, straddled on a jet bike. The aim: shoot everything in sight. Cool. Uses Dual Shock pad.

Frogger 3D 78%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-4
Retro classic given a 3D facelift. Gameplay's simple but still fun, while the graphics look nice enough. Four players with multitap.

Future Cop: LAPD 89%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Hover, stomp and blast your way through futuristic cities, all in the pursuit of justice. Not 'arf bad.

G

G-Darius 86%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Stomping shoot 'em up pits you against against a world of murderous fish. Well frantic.

G-Police 91%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Sci-fi helicopter thriller that grabs you by the balls. It's a bitch to control but the Dual Shock helps. winner

Gex: Enter the Gecko 80%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Yep, you control a bouncing lizard. Fine addition to an already fun-filled platform series.

Gex 3D 89%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Very cool 3D platformer pumped full of exploration and adrenalin. Sometimes tricky to control, but you'll get used to it pronto.

Ghost in the Shell 88%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-2
Japanese-y robot shooter with great graphics, cool tunes and a whole lotta gameplay. You'll like.

Global Domination 73%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Very boring to look at - it's just this coloured globe - but strategy nuts'll get excited over it. The rest of you, be wary.

Gran Turismo 97%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Three words: buy it now. This is the best racer EVER, with awesome graphics and gameplay. Very tasty. winner

H, I, J

Hard Edge 84%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
It's a Resident Evil-style adventure with a sci-fi edge and a dash of kung fu just for good measure. Not bad at all.

Heart of Darkness 85%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Good looking platformer plays like a peach. Puzzle-y bits to chew on too. Presented in widescreen though, which is odd.

Help! 85%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Broken Sword's great, but Road Rash and Myst ain't so hot. Still, pretty good value.

Herc's Adventures 85%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Solid gameplay and tons of challenge in fun-to-play cartoon frolics. Arcade adventure, Greek Gods stylee.

»

Knowledge: updated every month

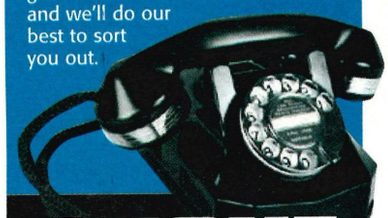
Hercules 80%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-2
Based on the Disney flick, this coolio looking platform game is fun for a bit. Could've been longer, though.

Impact Racing 72%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Offbeat racing game mixing Destruction Derby with Mad Max. Not quite as good as it sounds, unfortunately...

Want to know about a game?

Then give us a call.

There's one helluva lot of games available on the PlayStation. So it's not easy choosing. That's why we're here, to help you out. If you want advice on what to buy for give us a call on the number below and we'll do our best to sort you out.



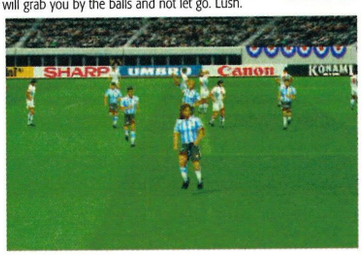
PHONE

0171 972 6700

And ask to speak to PlayStation. We're here to help.

ISS Pro 98 94%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
The best footy game bar none. It's easy to play but will grab you by the balls and not let go. Lush.

winner



Jersey Devil 78%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Looks fantastic but the gameplay's not quite up to scratch. Dodgy camera angles make it hard to play.

Jonah Lomu Rugby 84%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-4
Brilliant rugby sim, but the fiddly controls will drive you mad. Worth sticking with...

Jumping Flash 76%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1
Well old 3D platformer where you've gotta leap sky-high to win. Nice idea but looking a bit dated.

Jumping Flash 2 77%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1
Same thing as before, but not enough levels to keep your appetite satisfied. No fair.

K.L

Kensei: Sacred Fist 75%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Tries hard to be a great beat 'em up but doesn't quite succeed. We reckon you're better off with Tekken 3.

KKnD: Krossfire 77%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
It stands for Kill Krush and Destroy. Which sounds cool. But this is not as good as you'd think.

Rent it

Klonoa 80%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1
Sickly sweet platform romp which stars a puppy as the main geeza. Nice looking and fun enough to play, but a bit easy.

Kula World 89%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1
Bounce a beach ball through weirdo levels to solve puzzles. Odd concept but strangely addictive.

Lemmings 80%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1
It's cheap, addictive as hell but looks bloody awful. Still, we reckon you'll play for ages. Uses Dual Shock.

Little Big Adventure 81%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Action adventure packed with puzzles and shooty bits. Another case of gameplay over graphics.

Lucky Luke 72%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
The mix of gameplay styles makes this an interesting if not exciting platformer. Looks a bit kiddyish.

M

Machine Hunter 80%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Top-down blast where the action never stops. Good fun for both one and two players.

Madden 97 80%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
If American football floats your boat you could to a lot worse than tackle this baby.

Madden 98 83%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Better than the first but not by much. More gridiron action than you can shake a stick at.

Madden 99 73%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-4
For chrissakes, three games later and naff all has changed. Yeah it's still OK, but we demand more! Uses multitap.

Magic Carpet 79%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Fly around on your mystic rug, zapping weird creatures with magic. An oldie but still pretty darn good.

Marvel Super Heroes 78%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Flattish beat'em up with some H-U-G-E fighters. Animation's not so hot but it plays nice enough.

Marvel Super Heroes vs Street fighter 83%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
If you're really into Marvel Super Heroes and REALLY into Street Fighter, this cannae be faulted. The rest of you, approach with care.

Max Power Racing 90%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
No Gran Turismo beater but still a pedal-to-the-metal road racer. Loadsa cars and tracks to choose from.

MDK 75%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Interesting shoot 'em up let down badly by patchy graphics. Filled with action though.

Rent it

Mechwarrior 2 83%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Climb inside a giant-sized robot and trudge into battle. Mixes strategy and shooting to great effect.

MediEvil 92%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Does slaughtering demons pump your pulse? Then tuck into this hack 'n' slash adventure. We like it.

winner

Metal Gear Solid 93%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Atmospheric, pacy, good-looking and innovative. If only it were a bit longer...

winner



Michael Owen's WLS 99 92%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
England soccer star endorses top footy game. Looks are sweet and gameplay is finger lickin' good.

winner

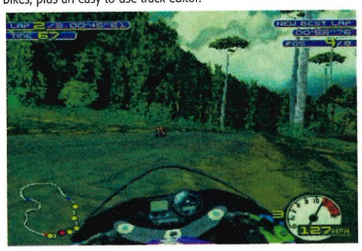
Monster Trucks 76%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Big motors with oversized tyres trash the countryside in this frantic racer. Good dirt churnin' fun for a little while.

Mortal Kombat 3 71%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
MK fans will love it but the rest of us'll think it's pretty naff. Extra marks for gory finishing moves.

Moto Racer 80%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Pretty speedy motorbike racer with both tarmac and off-road tracks. A nice change from car games.

Moto Racer 2 91%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
This is one helluva scorcher. Stacks of tracks and bikes, plus an easy-to-use track editor.

winner



Motorhead 89%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
So fast it'll make your eyes bleed. Graphics are basic compared to Gran Turismo, but this one still pops our cork.

Motor Toon Grand Prix 2 80%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-2
Light-hearted racer that's more a laugh than a sim. Great in one player but check out the two-player link-up - it's smart.

Music 92%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1
Be the next Fatboy Slim with this dance music creator. Loads of samples and dead easy to use.

winner

Myst 76%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
One third of the Help! charity pack. Dull-looking adventure that's quite absorbing. Patience is a must for this 'un though.

N

N20 86%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
No-brainer gameplay means you can pick up this blast and notch up high scores within minutes.

Rent it

Nanotek Warrior 75%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Enjoyable shooting action which starts with a kick, but lacks enough levels to keep blowing your mind.

NBA Hangtime 72%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-4
Arcade basketball game doesn't take itself too seriously. A laugh in four-player with multitap and that's about it.

NBA in the Zone 75%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Pacey basketball sim with stacks of stats. Looks old compared to newer b-ball slam dunkers.

NBA in the Zone 2 85%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Much better than the first, but let's face it, it's still basketball. More variety next time, please.

NBA Jam Tournament 80%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-4
Mutitap-compatible conversion of the age-old arcade game. Two-on-two action with big heads. Odd.

NBA Live 97 83%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-8
Two multitaps, eight players. Fork out top dollar for this sweet b-ball game and all the gear and you won't be disappointed.

NBA Live 98 88%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-8
Same as the last, but with updated teams and players, plus a few enhancements. Sweet.

NBA Live 99 79%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-8
Look, enough of the basketball games, all right? Especially when they offer bugger all over the others.

Need for Speed III 87%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Very fast and tasty-looking high-speed driving game which is miles better than the previous two. Uses Dual Shock.

Newman Haas Racing 71%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Substandard Indy Car racer from the blokes who gave us Formula 1. Looks old, man.

NFL Blitz 86%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
The only American footy game which doesn't get bogged down by over-complicated rules. Not 'alf bad.

NFL Gameday 72%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
More realistic than Blitz but nowhere near as much fun. Very average in every respect.

NHL 97 85%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Top-notch graphics make this a great-looking sports sim. Gameplay's pretty hot, too.

NHL 98 91%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-8
Slicker than the previous effort, plus better graphics and all-new teams. And an eight-player mode.

winner

NHL 99 86%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-8
Instalment number three and it's still the same old thang. Not bad, but we expect more. So should you.

NHL Breakaway 98 87%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-8
If ice hockey's your bag, this ain't bad for a spin, even though it looks and plays like most of the others.

NHL Powerplay 98 87%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-8
A lot of ice, tons of players and a tiny puck. It sounds like every other hockey game and y'know what, it is.

Nightmare Creatures 89%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Gothic horror game with two heroes hack 'n' slashing it against Satan's spawn. Gory and great.

Ninja: Shadow of Darkness 80%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Chuck throwing stars and hack with your sword in this OKish one-player action 'em up.

Nuclear Strike 91%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Explosive chopper shooter mixing top-notch blasting with serious strategy. It's a toughie, but you'll dig it.

winner

O

ODT 86%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Run around and shoot loads of stuff. Oh, and solve some darn easy puzzles. We don't mind this at all.

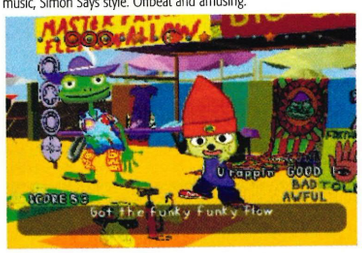
Olympic Soccer 75%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
An old skool soccer game which looks appalling but doesn't play too bad. Not in the same league as ISS Pro though.

One 79%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Good looking ultra-violent platform shooter which would've been awesome if it wasn't for the yawnsome combat.

Overblood 71%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Resident Evil-style adventure which lacks excitement or tension. More action needed, and fast!

P

Parappa the Rapper 89%
Price £29.99 **Players** 1
Bizarro rapping game when you win by tapping in time with the music, Simon Says style. Offbeat and amusing.



Phat Air Snowboarding 75%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-2
Snowboarding bandwagon-jumper which just doesn't cut the mustard against t'other steep slope sliders.

Pitfall 3D 84%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Very playable platformer which nicks a load of ideas from Indiana Jones. Challenging yet fun.

Pocket Fighter 79%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Pint-sized fighters square up against each other in this strangely interesting punch 'em up. One for fanatics only.

Po'Ed 72%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Doom-style blaster with weird monsters and bizarro weapons. Ever whacked anything with a frying pan? You can now...

Point Blank 92%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-2
Fantastic shooting gallery gun game which really needs a lightgun. The two-player is brilliant.

winner

Pool Hustler 79%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Plenty 'o' ball fun to be had, but strange Yankee rules spoil our fun somewhat.

Populous: The Beginning 85%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Another God game where you build up your little guys and lead 'em into battle. Yeah, a nice little number.

Poy Poy 83%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-4
Using the multitap, up to four players can whup each other's ass by chucking stuff around. The one player game is naff though.

Poy Poy 2 73%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-4
Hang on a sec. This is exactly the same as the first. We demand to know what's going on!

Premier Manager 98 86%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Was the king of the sheepskin coat, but a few major flaws mean it's not quite a classic. Not so for the sequel though...

Premier Manager 99 91%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Similar to the first, but with most of the bugs ironed out. The result's a well-tasty footy management sim. winner



Pro Pinball: Big Race USA 89%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1-4
Bargain-priced pinball sim with only one table, but boy is it a corker. Stacks of secrets and bonuses to play with.

Pro Pinball: The Web 89%
Price £24.99 **Players** 1-4
The first in the Pro Pinball series. A class table with tons of sub-games ensures this is a definite must-have.

Pro Pinball: Timeshock! 89%
Price £24.99 **Players** 1-4
Like the others in the series, this offers fantastic ball physics and a brilliant table to play on.

Project Overkill 72%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1
Flashy but dull-as-ditch-water shoot 'em up. Not even the handful of puzzles spice it up...

Psychic Detective 74%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Spanning three CDs, it's not that it's a giant-sized game, it's just got a load of video footage. Not bad but by no means great.

Psychic Force 71%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Standard fare beat 'em up. All the usual moves and fighters but poor executed. Oh well.

R

R-Types 81%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Two really old shoot 'em ups for the price of one. Both look pretty poor but both pack some serious gameplay.

Racing Simulation-Monaco Grand Prix 82%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-4
At last! A Formula One game that doesn't suck. Yeah, you could've knocked us over with a feather, too...

Rage Racer 93%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Goyjush-looking, super-fast racing game that's lush to play. Get it, worship it, thank us for recommending it. winner

Raging Skies 71%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Dated flight sim which gets repetitive all too quickly. It's average, even if you're into this sort of thang.

Raiden Project 72%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-2
Dodgy to look at 'cos it's so old. The gameplay's simple but doesn't rescue it from mediocrity.

Rally Cross 80%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-4
Tasty little off-road racing game made even better by its multitap-tastic four-player mode.

Rally Cross 2 79%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-2
None too serious sequel with fun gameplay and ridiculous crashes. The track editor is a nice touch.

Rapid Racer 82%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-2
Speedboat racing with kick-ass soundtrack and some coolio water effects. Slow in two-player mode.

Rapid Reload 75%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Entertaining but ultimately limited platform shoot 'em up. There's much better stuff available...

Ray Storm 83%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-2
Vertical blasting shoot 'em up that's tough, demanding and fast. Also packs some great weapons.

Ray Tracers 73%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1
Fantastic while it lasts, but this zippy car chase game is over within the first couple of hours. Darn! Rent it

Reboot 78%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Hoverboard game that's more a frantic blast than futuristic racer. Plays well, but a bit limited.

Reloaded 71%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Top-down blast with big weapons and a surprising number of levels. Very samey after a while.

Resident Evil 2 95%
Price £49.99 **Players** 1
Two discs full of pant-filling surprises. Super-tense and gloriously gory, we guarantee you'll love it. winner

Resident Evil Director's Cut 91%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1
Virtually identical to the first one, but with a couple of extra scenes. Get the original for £20 instead. winner

Retro Force 75%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Robotic space cats run riot in this old-style shoot 'em up. Don't bother buying, rent it instead. Rent it

Return Fire 88%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Comical army game where you choose your vehicle and drive it into battle. Fast, furious and fun.

Ridge Racer Type 4 93%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Excellent racing game. Right up there with Gran Turismo. Buy it. Now. winner



Risk 73%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-4
Expensive alternative to the classic boardgame of world domination. Your dad'll probably like it.

Rival Schools 89%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Schoolkids go psycho in the playground in this sweet 3D fighter. You can even train up your geezas.

Riven 80%
Price £49.99 **Players** 1
You'll pay big bucks for this 'cos it's on five discs. Very clever and good looking, but very, very slow.

Road Rash 3D 80%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Bike racing with two ways to win: drive like a demon or use chains and other weapons to cane the other riders. Different.

Rogue Trip 76%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Cars wars set in different arenas. Grab victory by rescuing tourists and filling the enemy with bullets.

Rollcage 89%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Like WipEout on the roads. Which means lots of speed and driving on the ceiling. So, yeah: it rocks.

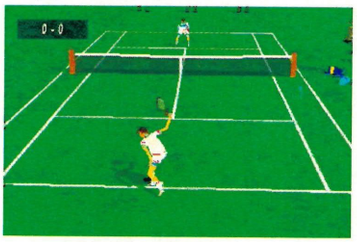
Rosco McQueen 78%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1
Firefighting thang in which you've gotta save buildings before they're burnt to the ground. More suited to youngsters.

Rushdown 78%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Mountain biking, snowboarding and kayaking all on the one disc. Shame it's not that great.

R-Type Delta 85%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Old-style space shoot 'em up sees you flying across the screen offing baddies. Still takes no prisoners.

S

Sampras Extreme Tennis 89%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-4
Real ease of play and lots of views raise it above unseeded rivals. A lots of players to choose from, too.



SCARS 83%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-4
Super Computer Animal Racing Simulation, otherwise known as good-for-a-laff tyre burner for up to four players using a multitap.

Shadow Master 78%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Buggy-based first-person shooter set in the future. Loadsa blasting but gets a bit boring after a while.

Sim City 2000 87%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
First you build a city, then you've got to run it. Pretty heavy going but rewarding if you stick at it. Easier to control with the mouse.

Skull Monkeys 78%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Plasticine characters and far-out levels makes this platformer a unique, if not entirely brilliant action game.

Snow Racer 79%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-2
Ski or snowboard down some dangerously steep slopes. Great freestyle mode but not much else. Rent it

Spot goes to Hollywood 71%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1
You're a little red spot, right, and you've gotta jump on bad guys and collect things. In other words, a dodgy platformer.

Spyro the Dragon 88%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Hyper-cute 3D platform epic that's lovely looking but pretty simple to play. Come 'n' get it, kids...

Star Gladiator 85%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
This 3D fighter's super-smart to look at, and although gameplay's basic it's still good for a quick bash.

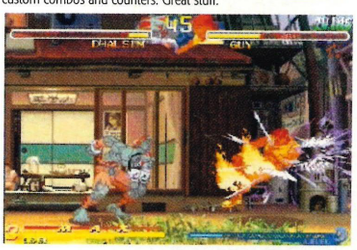
Streak 79%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Hoverboarding race game with some cleverly-designed courses and an all-right two-player game.

Steel Harbinger 71%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Viewed-from-above run-around, shooty game, with you cast as a scantily-clad female cyborg. Odd plot, ordinary gameplay.

Steel Reign 75%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-2
Not-so-bad tank game that's a bit repetitive but worth a look all the same. Best to rent, though. Rent it

Street Fighter Alpha 87%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
It's an old series but as a 2D fighter it's still super-slick. Great graphics and solid gameplay.

Street Fighter Alpha 2 91%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Similar to before but with new characters, great custom combos and counters. Great stuff. winner



Street Fighter Alpha 3 85%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Smart enough beat 'em up all right , but the good news is: it uses the PocketStation.

Street Fighter Collection 73%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Not-that-great compilation of three Street Fighter games, two of which are dead old and extremely similar. Shame.

Street Fighter Ex Plus Alpha 93%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
It's Street Fighter in 3D and y'know what, it rocks. Fast and full of great moves, you should have this in winner

Street Racer 71%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-4
Average racing game which is only memorable for the multiplayer game. Which isn't that great, either. Oops.

Suikoden 75%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Boring as hell to look at, but role-playing freaks'll get moist over this. It's a bit dull for the rest of us, though.

Super Puzzle Fighter 2 Turbo 92%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
The most addictive game we've played, EVER. And it's only a dead simple puzzle game. winner

Supersonic Racers 74%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Playable but flawed racer with tiny cars and interesting tracks. Not as good as Micro Machines.

Swagman 77%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Arcade fun set in a weird dreamscape. Looks flat and pretty dull, a bit like the gameplay.

Syndicate Wars 90%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-4
Ultra-cool and very violent shoot'em up with neat four-player multi-tap game. Pretty good with a mouse.

T

Tank Racer 71%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
As a two-player game you'll get a bit of value, but in single-player mode racing tank's just doesn't cut it. Rent it

Tekken 3 96%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
The daddy of all beat 'em ups, this is so good it hurts. Superb graphics, moves and fighters. winner

Tempest X3 80%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-2
Retro shooter. Gameplay's sweet and the graphics are OK, but it doesn't last long enough. Rent it

Tenchu: Stealth Assasin 92%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Be rough like a ninja and sting like a bee in this awesome game of blood-spilling and stealth. winner



Tenka 72%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Slow-moving first-person blast with run-of-the-mill graphics and gameplay. Needs an action injection.

Tennis Arena 76%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-4
Slick tennis game that's not the best we've seen, but it's not all bad. Has a four-player multitap option.

Test Drive 4x4 76%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
There are stacks of off-roaders available and this isn't up there with the best of 'em. Oh well.

Test Drive 5 77%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Tarmac racer which just manages to drag itself from the pit of mediocrity. But only just...

Tetris Plus 79%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Well, it's Tetris innit? A pretty good version of the classic puzzler, but the price tag's a bit steep. Rent it

Theme Hospital 84%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Build your own hospital, making sure the patients are cared for and the doctors aren't overworked. Not bad. Easier with mouse.

Theme Park 85%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Same as above, but this time you've got a theme park complete with rollercoasters and rides to play around with.

Tiger Shark 72%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Impossibly high difficulty level makes this otherwise tasty shooter a bit hard to enjoy. C'mon guys, go easy on us...

»

Why?

Answers to burning questions...

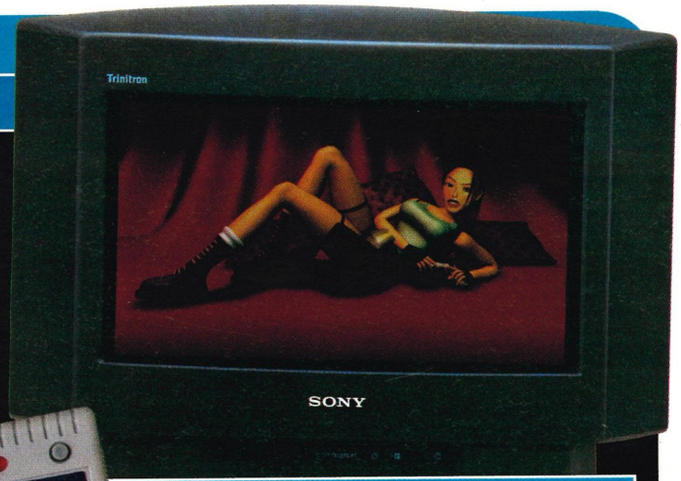
Why don't lightguns work on widescreen Tvs?

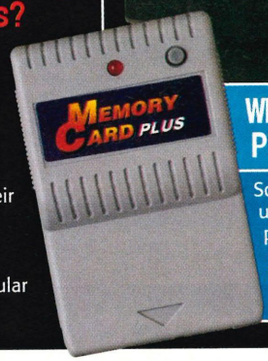
Since a widescreen TV is basically stretching the picture, it sends lightguns all bonkers. Some guns do seem to work on some TVs, though, so our advice is to check with the shop and try guns out for size.

Why don't double-sized memory cards work with all games?

If we had a quid for every time we've been asked this question we'd all own yachts.

The reason is because memory cards with lots of slots achieve extra space by compressing data. But since games like Tomb Raider compress their data already, stuff starts to go wrong when the card wants to compress information that's already been compressed. Ouch. Stick with the regular card, we say.





Why are the bottom of PlayStation discs black?

Sony have a special coating they use on the underside of discs to protect them against piracy. If your game does not have a – wait for it – black bottom, then odds-on you're playing a pirate.



Tiger Woods 99 — 78%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-4
A pretty good golf sim which only falls short because of it's cruddy putting system.

Time Commando — 76%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Unusual sci-fi mix of adventure and shooting. Odd control system takes some getting used to.

Tobal No.1 — 91%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
A beat'em up with a difference - it's got the one-on-one ruck, but also a cool exploration mode. Winner

TOCA Touring Car 2 — 93%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
The graphics are juicy, the handling is sweet and gameplay is spot on. Two-player ain't so bad, either. Winner

Tomb Raider II — 94%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Lara's second adventure is good but boy, is it a git to beat. Soon to be going Platinum so hang on. Winner

Tomb Raider III — 93%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Three games later and she's still kicking ass. Bigger than the other two and just as exciting. Winner



Tombi — 79%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Typically Jap-style cartoon platformer with a pink-haired caveman who chucks pigs around. Just don't ask, OK?

Total NBA 96 — 74%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-8
Just when you thought it was safe to enter the game shop... Another b-ball game appears. Noo!

Total NBA 97 — 76%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-8
Slightly better than the last but still not great. Only check out if you *really* like basketball games.

Total NBA 98 — 79%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-8
The best of the series, but again it's only recommended to true fans of this slam-dunkin' sim.

Tokyo Highway Battle — 74%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Substandard Rage Racer clone set on the streets of, um, Tokyo. The only good bit is the powersliding.

Toshiden 3 — 76%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
A beat 'em up best left for beginners, 'cos you can pull off some cool-looking moves just by hammering the buttons. Yawn.

Transport Tycoon — 84%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Your city's in dire need of a decent transport system and you're the guy to sort it. Pretty good if you've got patience.

Treasure of the Deep — 78%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Make money by stealing booty from shipwrecks. Slow-paced under-water exploration blaster.

Tunnel B1 — 77%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
It's looks the business but gameplay's not so sweet. Ultra-repetitive first-person shoot 'em up.

Twisted Metal — 79%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-2
Mad Max-style car shooting. A taste of things to come in the superb sequel, but this isn't quite so slick.

Twisted Metal World Tour — 87%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-2
Dodgy graphics aside, this is a great car-based blast which really rocks in two-player. Great battle arenas, too.

The Unholy War — 89%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Part of it's like a chess game with good graphics, the other bit's a frantic blast between two fighters. Racy.

U.V

UEFA Champions League Season 98/99 — 91%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-4
Footy game great looks and gameplay to match. We have a winnah! Winner

Vandal Hearts — 81%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Another gammy-looking role-player with half-decent gameplay. Geeks'll love it, but the rest of us will find it hard work.

V-Ball Beach Volley Heroes — 75%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-2
Kung-fu-style volleyball that's pretty easy to play and fairly enjoyable. At its best in two-player.

Victory Boxing — 74%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
More tactical than yer standard beat 'em up, this is slow and not much fun.

Victory Boxing 2 — 76%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
More of the same but with slightly better graphics. We prefer our fighters to be a bit faster.

Vigilante 8 — 91%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Cool-looking destruction derby with wicked cars kitted out with serious weaponry. Ace in two-player. Winner

Virtual Pool — 79%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Not a bad pool game but let's face it, you can't beat chalking the cue down your local.



Viva Football — 84%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Class footy game with all the best international teams from the last 30-odd years. Unique control system works well.

VR Baseball — 71%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
The only baseball game you're ever likely to want to play, and even then it's only average.

Vs — 80%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
LA gang war beat 'em up that's fun but the graphics ain't all that. Still, gameplay packs a punch.

V Tennis — 72%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Average tennis game which really doesn't stand up against competition like Sampras Extreme.

W

Warcraft 2 — 85%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Pretty cool Command & Conquer-style strategy game. No mouse support and lack of two-player mode a mistake.

WarGames: Defcon 1 — 88%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Full-on action-strategy game with loads of firefights and action to sink your teeth into.

Warhammer: SOTHR — 78%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Shadow of the Horned Rat's a slow strategy beast based on the tabletop game. A bit limited for most. Rent it

Warhammer II: Dark Omen — 84%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Better than the first but not by much. Pretty deep and therefore difficult to get into goblin-infested fantasy war epic.

Warhawk — 79%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Instantly playable even though the controls are perhaps a bit tricky to begin with. Action shooter which could've been much better.

Warzone 2100 — 87%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
War strategy game with loads missions to get your teeth into. If strategy's your bag, you'll get into this one.

Wayne Gretsky's 3D Hockey 98 — 74%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-4
Fast 'n' furious, but it won't last you that long. Stick to renting it only.

WCW Vs The World — 78%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Surprisingly good wrestling game with a whopping 60 characters. Even if you hate the sport you'll have a laugh with this.

Wild 9 — 78%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Slickly presented and well-thought out platformer that's just too goddamn slow. Rent it

Wild Arms — 83%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1
Hardcore role-player for the kinda guy who wears thick-rimmed specs and a second-hand anorak. You have been warned.

Williams Arcade Classics — 75%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
A retro compilation with five good games out of six games, one of which is Defender. Result!

Wing Commander III — 76%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Features fantastic video sequences and the bloke who played Luke Skywalker, but the gameplay ain't so good.

World Cup 98 — 85%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-8
The official game of the 98 tournament so it features all the proper teams and players. Not perfect but pretty good. Uses two multitaps.

World Cup Golf — 77%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-8
The graphics are spot on but some of the courses are unforgiving, especially when you're penalised for mistakes you didn't make.

World League Soccer — 90%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-4
A great game, the sequel of which is endorsed by Michael Owen. Still good. Works with multitap.

Wreckin' Crew — 72%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
This small car racer is bright and colourful and provides a lorra laughs. It's still pretty flawed though.

WWF Warzone — 78%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-2
Wrestling game which is playable enough, but it's still nothing special. The create wrestler option is cool.

WWF Wrestlemania — 71%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-2
More of the same, but much dodgier graphics. The moves aren't particularly exciting and neither's the game.

X.Y.Z

X-Com: Enemy Unknown — 82%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
A turn-based strategy game that's easy to play yet fulfilling if you've got the time. The idea? To cane the alien invaders.

X-Com: Terror from the Deep — 82%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
The same as above but set underwater, which means you get added air bubbles and all-new monsters. Oooh.

X-Men: Children of the Atom — 72%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Too slow, plus the animation's rubbish. Just two criticisms of this particularly average thumpfest.

X-Men Vs Street Fighter — 71%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Suffers from the same problems as X-Men: COTA. Just not up there with the Tekkens of this world.

Z — 78%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Even though this robot battle game's flavoured with strategy, it's still overflowing with action.

Zero Divide — 71%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
It tries to be Tekken with robots, but cocks up the graphics and the gameplay's just done a runner. Oh dear.



Every £19.99 bargain PlayStation game rated

Platinum games

Abe's Oddysee 91%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1-2
Stuffed with gameplay goodness and laffs a-plenty. The puzzles are rock solid but you'll dig it anyway. winner

Actua Soccer 68%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1-2
All right graphics are eclipsed by awkward gameplay. OK but nowhere near as good as ISS Pro.

Adidas Power Soccer 60%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1-4
Doesn't look that hot, doesn't play too good either. In fact, it's got naff all going for it, really...

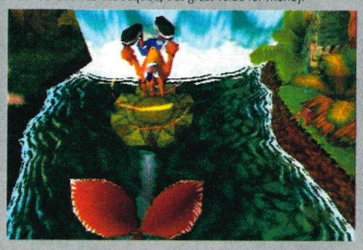
Air Combat 65%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1
Tedious dogfighting game which tries to be a flight sim but fails. Miserably. Not enough action, not enough realism.

Alien Trilogy 85%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1
First-person blast based on the smash movies. Crammed with nasty aliens to bag and coolio weapons to collect.

Bust-a-Move 2 89%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1-2
Overly cute puzzle game which plays like a dream. Pop coloured balls to win. Simple but enjoyable.

Command & Conquer 90%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1
Guide your troops through enemy-riddled battlefields, building stuff as you go. Slow but still good.

Crash Bandicoot 86%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1
Playable but frustrating platformer which looks the biz. Not as much variation as the sequels, but great value for money.



Croc 79%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1
Super-cute 3D platform romp where cuddly Croc's gotta rescue his furball buddies. Looks nice, but it's a bit too kiddy for us.

Destruction Derby 72%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1-2
Looks basic and gameplay's as shallow as a paddling pool. Two-player link-up is quite a laugh.

Destruction Derby 2 89%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1-2
Graphics are tons better and so's the game. Pull off spectacular crashes or race like a demon, it's up to you.

Die Hard Trilogy 91%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1
Three games in one, and they're all peachy. You'll need a lightgun for the second one. winner

Doom 90%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1-2
The original blood-spattered corridor shooter. Action-packed, great fun and a great two-player link-up game. Smart.

Excalibur 2555AD 77%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1
Tries to be Tomb Raider but misses by a mile. Still, the fantasy story line is interesting enough...

Fade to Black 87%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1
Sci-fi mix of puzzle-solving and shooting. It's dead hard but stick it out and you won't be disappointed.

FIFA 96 58%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1-4
This is an old git compared to the newer, better-looking games like ISS Pro 98. Not even worth £20, really.

Firestorm: Thunderhawk 2 82%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1
Helicopter shoot 'em up that's a sweet mix of strategy and action. Just released on charity pack with three other games

Formula 1 88%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1-2
More than competent racing sim based on the 95 F1 season. Graphics are a bit blocky but hey, we still like. Uses link-up cable.

Grand Theft Auto 85%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1
Crappy-looking but great fun to play. Steal cars, work for the mob, run riot. Hallelujah!

G-Police 84%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1
You're the cops. You pilot a cop copter. You blow stuff up across 35 different missions. What's to dislike?

Heart of Darkness 86%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1
Platform affair which looks good enough to eat and plays OK too. It's problem? Too damn frustrating by far...

Hercules 76%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1-2
Cartoony platform japes in a variety of styles. You've got Disney to thank for this one.

International Track & Field 90%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1-4
An excellent party game for four players. Hammer the buttons to rack up the fastest times in this Olympic-standard sports game.

ISS Pro 91%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1-2
Still up there with the best footy games. A bit slow, but plays sweet. You won't find a better bargain. winner

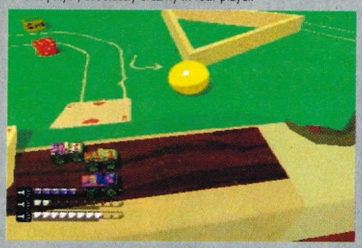
Legacy of Kain: Blood Omen 88%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1
Enormous vampire adventure overflowing with virgins and blood-sucking. Doesn't look great but it's cool to play.

Loaded 75%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1
Ultra-violent shooter with bags of style but not much variation. Won't last you too long, then.

The Lost World: Jurassic Park 41%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1
Dodgy dino blast where you play as either hunters or toothed-up reptiles hungry for blood. Twenty quid badly spent, we reckon.

Mickey's Wild Adventure 45%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1
Well dated 2D platformer with the cartoon rodent. Extremely cute and very, very boring. Avoid.

Micro Machines V3 91%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1-4
Pint-sized cars steam round giant-sized tracks. Good for one player, absolutely creamy in four-player. winner



Mortal Kombat Trilogy 76%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1-2
All the best Mortal Kombat bits in one package. Great if you like 'em gory, but we think it's just OK.

Moto Racer 79%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1-2
Straight-up, seat-of-your-pants motorcycle racing. Don't expect too much and you'll have a right laff.

Need for Speed 70%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1-2
Second-rate racer which can't decide whether to be an action game or simulation. C'mon, make up your mind...

Pandemonium! 91%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1
Bright, bold and bolshi 3D platformer with slick graphics and polished gameplay. winner

Pandemonium 2 79%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1
This sequel's more colourful and has got a choice of character, but lacks the pizazz of the original.

PGA Tour 96 59%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1-8
Looks ropey and the control system ain't so hot, especially when you're putting. Flawed, that's f'sure.

Porsche Challenge 80%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1-2
This nice-looking racer makes us warm in one-player, even if the controls are a bit dodge. Two-player's not so good.

Rayman 43%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1
This game's older than your gran and, y'know, it looks platformer which fails to excite. winner

Resident Evil 94%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1
Excellent scarefest with tons of head-popping gun action and staggering zombies. A must-have. winner



Ridge Racer 76%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1
Was great in it's time and is still OK, but has been succeeded by so many other racers. Why not check out...

Ridge Racer Revolution 84%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1-2
Plays much the same as Ridge Racer, but has got some better tracks and a two-player link-up mode. Awful music though.

Road Rash 64%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1-2
Motorbiking/fighting mix where the winner's the first one to cross the line in one piece. .

Soul Blade 90%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1-2
Lush sword-fighting beat 'em up with some mind-blowing special effects. Gameplay's simple but hey, it's still good.

Soviet Strike 92%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1
Rock solid chopper strategy shoot 'em up. Tough missions, top graphics and tricky gameplay. winner

Space Hulk 84%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1-2
Lead a team of dead 'ard space soldiers into battle against some nasty aliens. Slow strategy game.

Tekken 90%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1-2
Dead good to play but looks a bit crusty compared to the new 'uns. Good, but let's face it, you're gonna go for the one below...

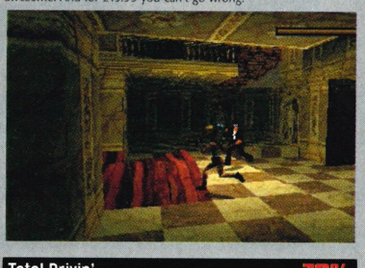
Tekken 2 95%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1-2
For £20 this is the bargain of the year. No, make that the Millennium. Everything's great about this. winner

Time Crisis 91%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1
The ultimate gun game which, for this price, will blow you away. You WILL need a lightgun though. winner

TOCA Touring Car Championship 91%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1-2
Wicked crashes a speciality here, as crowds of tuned-up cars burn it round a handful of tracks. winner

Tomb Raider 92%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1
Lara's first adventure is pretty much the perfect mix of action and puzzling. You really should have this. winner

Tomb Raider II 89%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1
Probably the worst of all Tomb Raiders. But still awesome. And for £19.99 you can't go wrong. winner



Total Drivin' 72%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1-4
Straightforward arcade racing for up to four players, using a link cable and split-screen option. Nowt special.

True Pinball 50%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1-2
It's got four tables but all of 'em are trash. Bite the bullet and fork out the extra cash for one of the Pro Pinball games instead.

V-Rally 92%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1-2
Dead enjoyable off-road effort with sweet gameplay and a tasty two-player game winner

WipEout 78%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1-2
Fast futuristic racer with high-speed thrills and collect weapons. Looks very old compared to the sequel.

WipEout 2097 94%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1-2
A blindin' super-slick racing monster that's so fast your eyes'll pop. Good link-up game and music by Prodigy and Chemical Brothers.

Worms 82%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1-4
It's a real stinker for one player, but plug in a multitap, get yer mates around and let battle commence. Cool.

NEW Heart of Darkness

Price £19.99 **Players** 1



Great-looking platformer goes for a song

What's this then?
It's a platform game. You play a kid looking for his dog.

What's it like?
It may sound a bit childish, but it don't play like that. This is rock hard and frustrating at times, too. Still, it looks absolutely blinding.

RATED 86%



See? Told you it looks good. Shame it's so hard

»



Wild Things Premier Pad

■ **£6.99**

Ah, the joys of brightly-coloured joypads. The clever lads at Wild Things obviously told their design monkeys 'Think Flash Gordon!' when they set them to work on the Premier Pad. Shiny gold foil. Transparent plastic. Swirly bits. Desirable, or what?

■ **Get it out for:** Impressing Flash Gordon fans

■ **Rated:** Looks nice, but it's a bit of an odd shape. And it's a touch difficult to reach round to the L and R buttons. A bit of a Flash in the pan, we reckon... **75%**

Primal Pad

■ **£24.99**

A huge big beefy mother of a pad. If you've got big rock-breaking working man's hands, look no further...

■ **Get it out for:** Hands-on full throttle gaming

■ **Rated:** Our resident Man With Big Hands liked it, but said the positioning of the L and R buttons was bad. It rumbles though, and everything else is pretty much A-OK... **80%**

Dual Force Pad

■ **£19.99**

You've guessed it. It's another pad that's come back dressed up in new fluorescent transparent plastic. Soon all electronic goods will be this way!

■ **Get it out for:** Dual shocking

■ **Rated:** As with most of the non-Sony joypads on the market, it's not quite up to the gold standard of the Dual Shock, but it does boast truly remarkable rumbling powers. And the sticks ain't bad either. If you like the design, and you'd have to be some kind of taste fascist not to, you could do a lot worse. An also-ran, but a very nice-looking one. **75%**

GEAR

Other stuff you need for your 'Station

Whether it's a new joypad or a cartridge that makes you a gaming god, you'll find the lot reviewed here...

Turbo Race Wheel

■ **£64.99**

Well, it's the first steering wheel with a handbrake, kids. Form an orderly queue. And it comes with rumble action, and clever clamps to fix it to the table.

■ **Get it out for:** Colin McRae Rally

■ **Rated:** Does the full racing Monty: ie it can do analogue, digital and NegCon. It rumbles. It's got big beefy pedals. And of course, there's that handbrake. Sadly, the handbrake's a cheap gimmick, and is useless, plastic and crap, but still, full marks for effort. Overall? Good, not great. And with other similar wheels on the market for £15 less, you should think carefully about that handbrake... **85%**

and the rest...

Games Rated 70% and under

2Xtreme 55%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Really poor sequel to Extreme Games.

3D Lemmings 69%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
OKish 3D graphics. Uninteresting and awkward gameplay.

4-4-2 14%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-4
An absolute disgrace of a football game.
ARSE

A

Actua Ice Hockey 65%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Fairly naff ice hockey effort. All together now: yawn.



Actua Soccer Club Edition 60%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Same as the first Actua Soccer, but with club teams. Duh.

Adidas Power Soccer 98 55%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-4
Crappy old footy game which doesn't cut the mustard.

Adidas Soccer International 97 64%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-4
A follow-up to the first 'un, and likewise just as slack.

Agent Armstrong 67%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Mindless blasting, easy puzzles and daft graphics.

Air Race 66%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Racing takes to the skies. Easy to pick up but not much fun.

All Star Soccer 34%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-4
Tries to mix footy with comedy commentary. Fails.

Andretti Racing 70%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-4
Link-up four-player's OK, but the rest is nothing special.

Aquanaut's Holiday 53%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Environmentally friendly undersea adventure. Wet, but not wild.

Area 51 52%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Dodgy lightgun game which is, like, Dullsville.

Ark of Time 46%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Bland puzzler: too boring and too hard. Get outta here!

Assault Rigs 68%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
A nice idea, but just too easy and too simple for its own good.

Asterix 30%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Unbelievably tedious mix of strategy and platform. Ugh!

Atari Collection 54%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-2
Retro compilation: oldie, but no goldie.

Atari Collection 2 55%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-2
More retro 'classics'. Yeah, right...

Asteroids 70%
Price £29.99 **Players** 1-2
Same old gameplay, but flashier graphics. It's OK.
Rent it

Atlantis 29%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Tremendously dull adventure-type malarky.
ARSE

Auto Destruct 69%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Cop show-style driving and shooting game with fizz.

Ayrton Senna Kart Duel 32%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Very grim, substandard racer. Avoid, and that's an order.

Ayrton Senna Kart Duel 2 35%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
A karting game with all the fun of a lobotomy. Nasty.

Azure Dreams 67%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
This RPG is packed with good ideas, but is ultimately tedious.

B

Battle Arena Toshinden 2 61%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-2
Great visuals but the gameplay doesn't cut it.

Battle Stations 52%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Nice battleships concept, but it's just so basic.

Batman Forever 28%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
A real stinker. A beat 'em up in the loosest sense.
ARSE

Beast Wars: Transformers 45%
Price £394.99 **Players** 1
Godawful shoot 'em up with robot animals.

Blast Chamber 54%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-4
It's a futuristic game of tag. No, really, it is...

Blasto 56%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Appalling 3D platformer. We really don't like this.

Blaze and Blade 40%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-4
Supremely grating role-playing which is no fun.

Bloodlines 40%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-4
Kind of like a game of sci-fi tig, if you see what we mean.

Break Point 62%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-4
A fairly playable arcade tennis game. Nothing special.

Brahma Force 65%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Robot shooter much like Doom, just not as good.

Broken Helix 70%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Futuristic shooty puzzler. Looking very dated indeed.

Brunswick Pro Bowling 45%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1-2
A very dodgy-looking bowling game with trashy gameplay.

Bubsy 3D 30%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1
Ugh! Ultra-crap platform game that looks and plays cruddy.

Bug Riders 34%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Ugly, unplayable insect-riding racer. Diabolical.

C

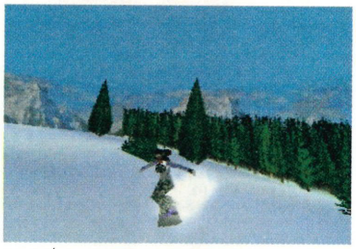
Carnage Heart 64%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-2
Build a robot then take it into battle. More strategy than action.

Casper 62%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Graphics are fine but it's a bit of a stinker to play.

Cheesy the Mouse 69%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Awful main character hides some average gameplay.

Chessmaster 3D 57%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Look, Grandad, we don't want your sort round here...

Chill 52%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
This snowboarding game is the pits. Much better stuff available.



City of the Lost Children 68%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Excellent graphics but wait, the gameplay's very slow.

Clock Tower 43%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Horror adventure that lacks tension and excitement.

Courier Crisis 69%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1
Collect parcels, deliver them. No thanks.

Critical Depth 65%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-2
Submarine shooter. OK in two-player, not so good for loners.

Criticom 61%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Nice enough graphics but this fighter looses out to Tekken.

Crow 2: City of Angels 33%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
You hated the movie, but you'll hate this fightin' adventure more.

Crypt Killer 27%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Zombie gun game. Bad just doesn't describe it.
ARSE

Cyber Sled 59%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Lots 'o' shooting, bugger all action. Aww.

Cyber Speed 60%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
You race around wires. Like, why?

Cyberia 60%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Underwhelming shooter with very little gameplay.

D

D 62%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Looks all right but way too short. You'll finish it an hour.

Darkstalkers 68%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Street Fighter meets horror, with missing gameplay. Oops.



Davis Cup Tennis 50%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-4
Stinky tennis game. Don't bother with this, please.

Defcon 5 59%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
3D adventure that's no fun. Zzzz...

Devil's Deception 60%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
You play Satan's helper in this dungeon manager game. Odd.

DiscWorld 65%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Fantasy comedy adventure which just isn't funny.

Dodgem Arena 68%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Arena-based spaceship ball game. Not great.

Dynasty Warriors 67%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Swordy fighter which doesn't, um, cut it against Soul Blade.

E

Eliminator 32%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Scoot around arenas, shooting stuff from your spaceship.

Epidemic 64%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1
Corridor-based shooter which leads straight to Snoresville.

Explosive Racing 51%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-2
It's a cruddy racing game. That's all you need to know.

Extreme Pinball 44%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Unrealistic ball movement so what's the point?

Extreme Snow Break 50%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Rubbish snowbarding effort. Well stinky.

F

FIFA 97 64%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-4
Very little improvement over 96, which wasn't much cop.

FIFA 98: Road to World Cup 65%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-8
Fairly average goal 'em up.

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This month's cheap thrills

Cool games for a price that'll blow you away...

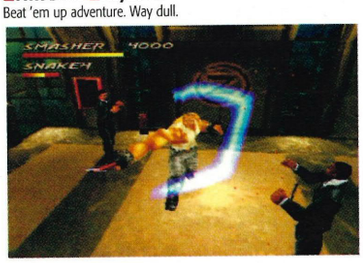


Three for under £30 each...

Virgin. Not just good for a cheap gag. Check out your local branch of Virgin and you'll find recent releases like Rollcage, F1 98, Tenchu, ISS Pro 98 and – best of all – Ridge Racer Type 4, all for £29.99. Not bad, eh?

Knowledge: updated every month

Fighting Force 66%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Beat 'em up adventure. Way dull.



Firo and Klawd 69%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Interesting buddy cop game which has no save game option. D'oh!

Floating Runner 59%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
3D adventure platform thing. No good.

Formula 1 98 70%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-4
Worse than the other two. Like, how did that happen?

Frenzy 16%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1
A biplane shooter. We really do hate this.
ARSE

G

Galaxian 3D 36%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-4
Space shooter, but where's the gameplay gone?

Gex 68%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
The original and worst lizard-based platformer.

Goal Storm 66%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Clumsy players lumber around like geriatrics.

Granstream Saga 55%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Role-playing tedium which smells bad.

Grid Run 64%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-4
Game of tag only half-decent in multiplayer.

Gunship 70%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Complex but fairly playable helicopter game.

Guardian's Crusade 35%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Even compared to other role-playing games this is boring tosh.

H

Hard Boiled 40%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Sci-fi shooter? Waste of space more like.

Hardcore 4x4 69%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Dull all-terrain racing game with lack of tracks.

Hebereke Popoitto 42%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Not-much-fun two-player puzzle game.

Hexen 50%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Very slow, very chunky first-person blast. Link-up.

Hi-Octane 64%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Race speeders and blast away with weapons. Or buy WipEout 2097.

Hybrid 14%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Doom-style action 'em up. A right balls-up.
ARSE

I

Independence Day 69%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Shoot 'em up based on the film. Bog-standard stuff.

Indy 500 50%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Offensively average Indy car game that's dull, dull, DULL.

In the Hunt 67%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
2D submarine shoot 'em up that's, er, substandard. Huh.

ISS Deluxe 56%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Dodgy footballer that's seen better days.

Iron and Blood 67%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Average 3D beat 'em up with swords 'n' stuff.

Iron Man 22%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Sad 'n' shoddy. A fighter of appalling standards.
ARSE

Iznogoud 9%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
The title says it all, really.
ARSE

J

Jeremy McGrath Supercross 98 52%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Ropey-as-hell motocross atrocity.

Jet rider 53%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-2
Great idea, but this hov-bike racer's let down by... well, everything.

Jet Rider II 30%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-2
A sequel which is worse. Go figure...

Johnny Bazookatone 50%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Rock 'n' roll platformer without little rock, bugger all roll.

Judge Dredd 60%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-2
Comic book gun game which lacks imagination. Well average.

K

K1 Arena Fighters 55%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Kick-boxing sim which just isn't slick or quick enough.

Kick Off 97 60%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-2
OK-to-play footy game which looks ancient.

Kick Off World 60%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-2
Same ol' thing, but with international teams. Ooh.

King of Fighters 95 40%
Price Rental only **Players** 1-2
Only costs three quid to rent this beat 'em up.
Rent it

Knockout Kings 67%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Plenty of famous boxers to choose from, but it's just so slow.

Krazy Ivan 61%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Robots with big guns fight, and nothing else happens. Oh, link-up.

Kurushi 68%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1
Block-based puzzler. Very mediocre.

L

The Last Report 35%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Tries to be Resident Evil but this adventure just ain't got it.

Legend 45%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Two-player hack 'n' slash fighter with sod all variety.

Lethal Enforcers 30%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-2
Repulsive two-player lightgun game. It made us physically sick.

Libero Grande 60%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-2
Far-out footy game which is just too weird for its own good.



Live Wire! 65%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-4
Make boxes in this tiring puzzle game. And that's it.

Lomax in Lemmingland 70%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Lemmings in platform shocker! Actually it's not that bad...

Lone Soldier 62%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Second-rate soldier shoot 'em up which is way slow.

Lost Vikings 2 63%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Arcade puzzler which is frustrating to play and rubbish to look at.

M

Maximum Force 50%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
More lightgun mediocrity you really shouldn't bother with.

MegaMan Battle and Chase 36%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Cartoon multiplayer racing. Just get lost, please...

MegaMan Legends 40%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
3D adventure. Looks like it's fifty years old, and that's being kind...

MegaMan X3 60%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Age-old platformer which is way too difficult.

MegaMan X4 40%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Oh c'mon, don't palm us off with the same old platform rubbish.

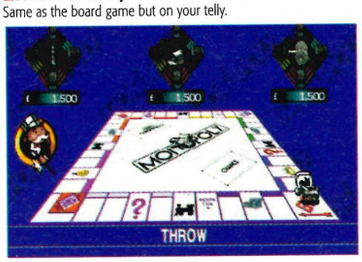
MegaMan 8 53%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Another name, yet strangely similar to the rest. Rubbish.

Men in Black 69%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Hugely disappointing adventure based on the movie.

Midnight Run 56%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Semi-fast racer that's a total turd to play. Yuk.

Monkey Hero 35%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Cartoon-style platform 'high jinx'. Er, hardly...

Monopoly 68%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-4
Same as the board game but on your telly.



Mortal Kombat 4 70%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-2
Another MK fighter which offers very little new stuff.
Rent it

Mortal Kombat Mythologies 50%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Boring, unplayable quest-version of age-old beat 'em up.

Motor Mash 68%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-4
Derivative comic racing game: nice graphics but it's slow and dull.

Mr Domino 70%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1
Puzzler let down by poor control.

N

Nagano Winter Olympics 35%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-4
Snow-based Track & Field game. Arse, quite frankly.

Namco Museum Vol.1 69%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
It's got Pacman, but everything else is yawny.

Namco Museum Vol.2 53%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
This time Xevious is the highlight. Oh, you've never heard of it...

Namco Museum Vol.3 63%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
C'mon, this is getting ridiculous...

Namco Museum Vol.4 57%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
PacLand and some other rubbish retro hell.

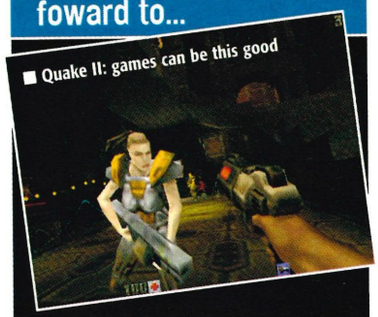
Namco Museum Vol.5 65%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Enough already. Blimey, don't they ever give in...

NASCAR 98 64%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Ugly, dull racer with a hideous soundtrack.

NASCAR 99 50%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Insanely cack racer with unbelievably bad commentary. It's dire.

We can hardly wait...

Games we're looking foward to...



Quake II
Some say this is the finest corridor shoot 'em up EVER on PC. And frankly, we're expecting nothing less than total excellence from this PlayStation version. Lotsa ultra-cool weapons, plenty of levels and tons of baddies to blow up.

Gran Turismo 2
Since the first one is about the best driving game you can get on the PlayStation, and the sequel promises even more, even better, it stands to reason that we're looking forward to this big style.

Legacy of Kain: Soul Reaver
Tomb Raider-style adventuring with a dash of Resident Evil-esque atmospherics thrown in. Yup, we do think this one's going to be a bit of a doozy.

Anna Kournikova's Smash Court Tennis
There's a real shortage of top tennis titles on the PlayStation, so any half-decent offering's enough to get us drooling. We're drooling over Anna Kournikova, natch. And not just because she's a babe....

NBA Fastbreak 65%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-4
Very realistic to play but y'know what, it's frustrating to the extreme.

NBA Jam Extreme 60%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-4
Basketball starring players with big heads. Very funny.

NBA Live 96 61%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Average b-baller which just won't blow your mind.

NBA Pro 98 30%
Price £38.99 **Players** 1-4
Just quit with the basketball games, OK?

Need for Speed 2 49%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Looks crap and plays like a brick.

Need for Speed: Road Challenge 64%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Average racing affair with only a chase mode to recommend it.

NFL Extreme 65%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Standard American football-type affair. Average.

NFL Quarterback Club 70%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-8
Competent sports sim let down by blocky graphics.
Rent it

NHL Face Off 64%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-8
Nothing new to be found in this ice hockey effort.

NHL Face Off 97 65%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-8
Still average, despite the inclusion of extra features...

NHL Face Off 99 60%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-8
And still more of the same hockey toss.

NHL Open Ice 70%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-4
Arcade-style hockey game. No great shakes, here.

NHL Powerplay 96 65%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-4
End-to-end stuff. OK, but there's so much better stuff on offer.

The Note 45%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Very basic adventure. Boring and dull.

Nova Storm 55%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Start game. Fire continuously. Finish game eventually. That's it.

O

Off World Interceptor 58%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
A buggy racer set on the Moon. Weird, but not much cop.

Olympic Games 70%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-4
More events than Track & Field, but not much fun to play.

OnSide Soccer 45%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Bland footy game not worth bothering with.

P

Pax Corpus 30%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Dire Tomb Raider wannabe. This is real slack.

Peak Performance 65%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Lots of options in this racer but not much else.

Perfect Weapon 51%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Beat 'em up cum adventure. Rubbish in both departments.

Pet in TV 60%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-2
Tamagotchi-style pet for your PlayStation? No thanks...

PGA Tour 97 65%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-4
Good-looking but gameplay's the same as all the rest.

PGA Tour 98 68%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-4
Same as the last one, apart from a couple of slight improvements.

Pitball 69%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-4
Futuristic sports game. Looks average, plays average.

Player Manager 68%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Predictable results spoil this footy management game.

Player Manager Seasons 98/99 62%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Football management effort that's not a patch on Premier Manager.

Pool 70%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-16
Average pool game with too many American rules. Rent it

Power Soccer 2 60%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-4
This average soccer game won't hold your interest for long.

Psybadek 67%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Hoverboarding game that's more adventure than racing. Poor.

R

Rampage World Tour 59%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-3
Choose your monster then smash some cities. Extremely basic.

Rascal 53%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Awful camera angles make this 3D platformer almost unplayable.

Real Bout: Fatal Fury 30%
Price Rental only **Players** 1-2
Very stale and slow beat 'em up. Not even worth renting.

Rebel Assault 2 46%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Not even the Star Wars connection saves this shooter.

Red Asphalt: Rock & Roll Racing 2 66%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Speedsters with awesome firepower fail to mix.

Revolution X 48%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
A gungame starring... Aerosmith? Oh pur-lease...

Rise 2: Resurrection 60%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Robot fighting game which fails to impress.

Riot 67%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-16
Despite its multiplayer option, this future sport's not much fun.

Robotron X 66%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Simple, mindless and run-of-the-mill shooter. Rent it

Rug Rats 21%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-4
Unbelievably crud cartoon games even the kids'll hate. ARSE

Running Wild 70%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-4
Race cartoon characters. Only fun in multiplayer.

S

Samurai Showdown 19%
Price Rental only **Players** 1-2
Sword-fighting which hits new depths... ARSE

San Francisco Rush 48%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-2
Tedious drive through the streets of SF. No fun.

Sensible Soccer 2000 25%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Crusty old footballer lacks talent. Real nasty. ARSE

Sentient 61%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Ambitious adventure is just too complicated for its own good.

Sentinel Returns 30%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-2
How can a game which looks so bad get released? Ridiculous.

Shanghai True Valor 18%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Oriental puzzler which you will not like. ARSE

Shellshock 65%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Second-rate tank game with shooty bits. Not brilliant, no siree.

Shockwave 56%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Trashy shoot 'em up which fails to get the blood pumping.

Skeleton Warriors 69%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Scrolling fighter which smells of old men's trousers.

Slam 'n' Jam 96 64%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Dodgy camera views and rough gameplay.

Small Soldiers 58%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
No variety, dull graphics and absolutely no link to the film.

Smash Court Tennis 57%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-4
Slow and unresponsive tennis game.

Space Jam 65%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Dull movie-based cash-in basketball game with Bugs Bunny and co.

Spawn: The Eternal 32%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Useless blend of action and adventure. Avoid.

Speed King 45%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Slow, boring and about as exciting as watching an egg boil.

Speedster 64%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Top-down racer which lacks speed and playability.

Spice World 21%
Price £19.99 **Players** 1
A shabby excuse for a game. Short and boring. ARSE

Spider 65%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Innovative platformer, but no better than average.

Sports Car GT 55%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
This is a toss racing game. It's slow and looks pants.

Starfighter 3000 60%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Doesn't look so hot, doesn't play well either. Dodgy shooter.

Star Wars: Masters of Teras Kasi 30%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-2
Star Wars characters fighting. Could've been great but no.

Starwinder 58%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Simplistic racer where every level plays the same.

Street Fighter Collection 2 60%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Three 'classic' Street Fighter games on one disc. Shite, naturally.

Street Fighter: The Movie 29%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Just as bad as the movie. In other words, CRAP. ARSE

Street Sk8er 70%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
We wanted a skateboarding game. Thing is, we wanted a good one.

Strikepoint: The Hex Missions 66%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Poor helicopter game. Try Soviet Strike instead.

Striker 96 59%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-4
Just another rubbishy football game.

Super Match Soccer 33%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-8
Yawnsome footy game. For God's sake don't buy it.

Super Football Champ 46%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Dull, drab, bland... Get the idea about this footy turd?

Super Pang Collection 53%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Retro bubble-bursting arcade game. Too simple, really.

Swing 64%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1-2
Super-confusing puzzle game that's still strangely addictive.

T

Tai Fu 45%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
A kung fu tiger. That's a bad idea, and this is a bad game.

Ten Pin Alley 54%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-6
Novelty bowling game which looks and plays like a dog.

Test Drive: Off Road 46%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Devoid of excitement and playability. Looks dreadful too.

Test Drive 4 70%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Lots of tracks but ultimately this 'un's too slow and ugly.

Three Lions 50%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Awful to look at and rubbish to play. A real footy stinker.

Tommi Makinen Rally 50%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Rally effort ain't much cop. In fact it's pants.

Top Gun: Fire at Will 66%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Gung-ho movie spin-off not worth tracking down.

Trash It 57%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-4
Platformer with big hammers. Shame it's just not interesting.

V

Versailles 10%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
A point 'n' click adventure. Redefines the word... ARSE

Viper 70%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Cacky controls spoil this great-looking chopper shoot 'em up.

Virtual Golf 57%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-4
Nowhere near as good as Actua Golf 3. Not even close...

Virus 2000 70%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Rather average as space shoot 'em ups go.

VMX Racing 50%
Price £34.99 **Players** 1
Dirt bike racer which looks a thousand years old. Well, almost.

VR Powerboat Racing 40%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Speedboat racing which is waaaay nasty.

W

Wargods 59%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
3D fighting game with mushy graphics and lousy gameplay.

WCW Nitro 63%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
No great shakes from the OKish wrestler.

WCW Vs NWO Thunder 65%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Some all right bits, but overall this really isn't much to shout about.

Wing Commander IV 50%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1
Great video sequences and shaky gameplay.

Wingover 40%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
Boring aerial shoot 'em up with lotsa planes. Zzzz.

World League Basketball 30%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-8
The worst b-ball game we've seen. Phew...

WWF in your House 48%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-4
Well below average wrestling game.

X.Y.Z

X2 58%
Price £44.99 **Players** 1-2
A tedious shoot 'em up that's way too difficult.

Xenocracy 20%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
A real dog turd of a game. ARSE

YoYo's Puzzle Park 45%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Stupid puzzley thing which'll stretch your patience to its limit.

Zeitgeist (Jupiter Strike) 43%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1
Slow, clumsy 3D shooting game which seriously lacks appeal.

Zero Divide 2 53%
Price £39.99 **Players** 1-2
Very suspect 3D fighter. Best left alone.



What does it do?

This month: the link cable

The link cable's a natty bit of kit that's sadly under-used in the world of PlayStation.

It links two consoles together for multiplayer gaming, which is cool but now we get to the reason why it's under-used. See, you need to get two PlayStations, two televisions and two copies of the same game all in the same place. And since most folks find that a bit of a shag, some seriously fun gaming gets missed. Big shame, we say. Go on, make the effort why don'cha?

Verdict

A hassle to get it going. After all, who has that much kit lying about in the first place? Still, try out a game of deathmatch Doom and you'll see what the fuss is about.

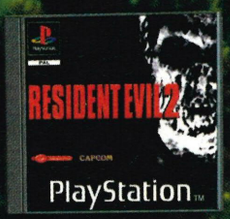
Top blasts

Check the the box for games using the cable. We reckon the best are deathmatch-style two-player blasts, like:

Doom (the guv'nor!), Duke Nukem 3D, Command and Conquer: Red Alert



SPOILER



By: Virgin
Costs: £44.99
Players: 1
First Out: April '98

#5 Resident Evil 2

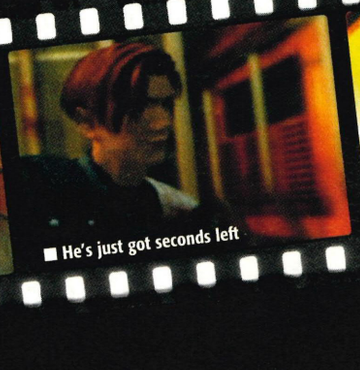
The Evil Dead

Leon's knifed, knocked and blasted his way through an army of undead nasties, only to face the worst of the lot: a giant-sized mutant with teeth as big as his head! The tyrant's a tough bast, but goes down with a couple of Magnum rounds in the mush. Unfortunately the Umbrella Lab is about to go nuclear, so there's no time to celebrate yet...

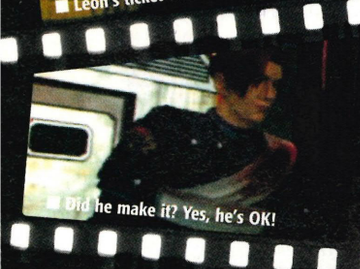

■ Leon's ticket outta here is leaving


■ Claire's already on board

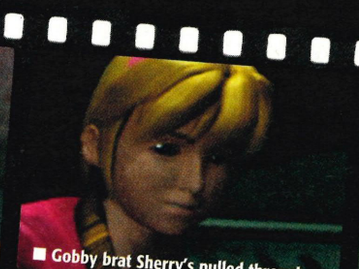

■ Can Leon get on the train?


■ He's just got seconds left


■ Boom! The place goes up in flames


■ Did he make it? Yes, he's OK!


■ And Claire's made it too


■ Gobby brat Sherry's pulled through


■ But Leon's love, Ada, didn't. Dam


■ Ah well, at least he gets this picture..

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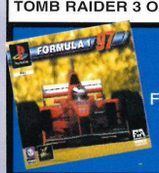
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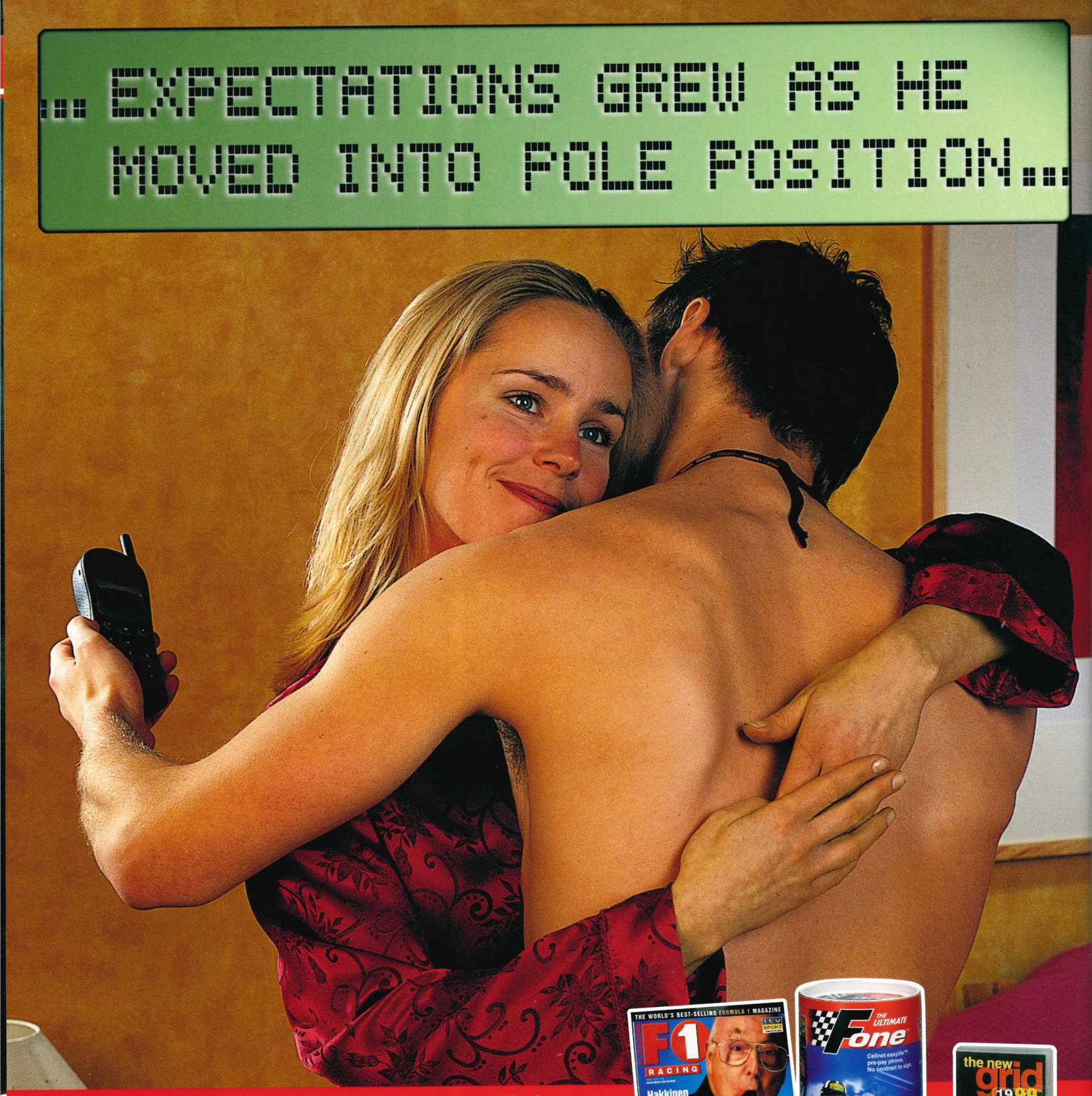
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